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THE BRITISH PHARMACOPŒIA, 1898.

THE new Pharmacopœia will be published at 10s. 6d. as anticipated, and we offer to supply subscribers with the work at 8s. carriage free, with a reprint of our review of the work. It is expected to be ready for issue on May 11.

A large number of orders are already in hand, and if there is any difficulty in getting a sufficient supply we shall send off copies according to the priority of orders.

We offer interleaved copies at 13s., also carriage free, and with copy of our review.

Subscribers who wish to take advantage of this offer are requested to send their orders with remittance as early as possible. We cannot supply copies for which remittances have not been received.

We also offer copies of our review in pamphlet form (for distribution to medical men, &c.) at 3s. 6d. per dozen.

AMERICAN AND CANADIAN TRADE.

IN view of the early inauguration of preferential duties in favour of the mother country's goods imported into Canada, the issue of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST of May 28 will give manufacturing and wholesale houses in this country an excellent opportunity of introducing their goods to Canadian buyers. The issue of that date will be specially circulated in Canada and the United States. Canadian trade with the United Kingdom has a great future before it, and those who are earliest in the field will get the better part of the crop. This applies also to the United States, which, from recent reports, is becoming more and more appreciative of British goods, and the financial and friendly relations between the two great countries foster trade. Firms who wish to take advantage of our American and Canadian issue should write to the Publisher, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.



DR. DEANS has described the manufacture of antitoxic-serums to the Public Dispensers' Association (p. 740).

IT IS PROPOSED to hold the London drug and produce sales in the Commercial Sale Rooms, in future (p. 773).

THE NAMES of the first, second, and third competitors in our Corner for Students winter tournament are given (p. 740).

THE ELECTED COUNCILLORS for the manufacturers' and for the wholesale sections of the P.A.T.A. are named (p. 740).

MR. W. MARCH, a chemist whose death we record, used to dispense for the Duke of Wellington, who weighed every pill he took (758).

THE NEW PHARMACOPŒIA is now official, but will not be ready until next week. It will not be used in the Minor examination until January, 1899 (p. 749).

THE PHARMACY BILL has drawn another amendment which would keep Minor men as associates and reserve seven seats on the Council to them (p. 771).

FRENCH LAW makes the vendor of a poison to a married woman who commits suicide with it liable in damages to the husband if the sale was not fully registered (p. 744).

THE COURT OF APPEAL has had heard counsel in the rhodamine-dyes case, wherein the success of a patented process turns upon the use of an iron autoclave, and no kind is specified (p. 753).

THE NAMES of those who passed the Pharmaceutical Preliminary examination in Great Britain last month are on p. 759, and of those who passed the Irish Pharmaceutical examinations on p. 747.

AMERICAN CORRESPONDENTS describe the first capping of doctors of pharmacy at Philadelphia, an attempt to cheat New York College of Pharmacy examiners, and other topics relating to the drug-trade (p. 769).

AT A MEETING of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland held last week Mr. W. F. Wells, jun., was presented with a silver bowl, of which we give an engraving, with portraits of the recipient and his father (p. 746).

ADULTERATION PROSECUTIONS at Cape Town have induced Messrs. Pocock & Co. to notify by placard and label that they do not guarantee their B.P. articles. Our correspondent has interviewed Mr. Pocock and others (p. 769).

THIS WEEK'S B.P. ARTICLES are on its inconsistencies by Mr. F. W. Fletcher, on the spirits by Mr. J. C. Umney, and on ext. belladonna liq. by Mr. J. J. Bryant, all of them being critical and showing directions for improvement (p. 765-8).

QUININE is easier this week,⁷ but is likely to go dearer (p. 775). We give further particulars regarding the Java factory (p. 762). A fair business is being done in the drug and chemical markets. Quicksilver is dearer, and ipecacuanha firmer. Camphor is likely to go higher (p. 774).

PROFESSORS Leech, Ramsay, and Remsen were elected honorary members of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain on Wednesday. At the same time the Council passed a dull annual report, and a financial statement which shows economical tendencies and several hundred pounds deficiency (p. 748).

TWO INTERESTING POINTS under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act are reported. A case was dismissed at Guildford because the inspector having bought six 1d. bottles of glycerine left two of them with the vendor instead of dividing the bulk, and in the High Court it was held that it was not sufficient to describe a condensed milk as made from skimmed milk when in fact the fat had been removed by a separator (p. 755).



Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Corner for Students.

The following competitors were the first three in our lately completed winter tournament. The prize offered was a certificate and a copy of Mendeléeff's "Chemistry" to the competitor who should score the highest number of marks in the six monthly analytical exercises; and certificates and books were also promised to the second and third in the series. The highest possible total was 600. The top place was taken by

Mr. C. J. Packham, 16 Catherine Street, Croydon, with 579 marks.

Second came Mr. H. J. Henderson, Harbour House, Lowestoft, with 574 marks.

And third was Mr. H. W. Harrie, care of Messrs. Harker, Stagg & Morgan, 15 Laurence Pountney Lane, with 547 marks.

The certificates and books will be forwarded in a few days.

Proprietary Articles Trade Association.

The following firms have been elected to the manufacturers' and wholesale sections of the Council of the P.A.T.A.:—

Manufacturers' Section.

Allcock's Plaster Company (Limited), Birkenhead
Bovril (Limited), Farringdon Street, E.C.
Condal Water Company (Limited), Walbrook, E.C.
David, Cornille, & Co., Fenchurch Avenue, E.C.
Garratt, J. E., Southwark Street, S.E.
Holloway's Wine Company, New Oxford Street, W.C.
Homocca (Limited), Birkenhead
Lambert, W., & Co., Seymour Place, W.
Powell, Thomas (Limited), Albion Place, Blackfriars, S.E.
Smith, Stephen, & Co. (Limited), Bow, E.

Wholesale Section.

Barclay & Sons (Limited), 95 Farringdon Street, E.C.
Edwards, W., & Sons, 157 Queen Victoria Street, E.C.
Evans, Gadd & Co., Exeter
Hirst, Brooke & Hirst (Limited), Leeds
Lynch & Co. (Limited), 192 Aldersgate Street, E.C.
Maw, Son & Thompson, 7-12 Aldersgate Street, E.C.
May, Roberts & Co., 9 Clerkenwell Road, E.C.
Newbery, F., & Sons, King Edward Street, E.C.
Sanger, John, & Sons, Winsley Street, W.
Sutton, W., & Co., 76 Chiswell Street, E.C.

We have already published the names of the ten elected members of the retail section.

It will be noticed that the above report does not give any details of the voting, nor does it even name the firms nominated but not elected. It is the list supplied to us by the Secretary, and can hardly be taken as a report of the election. We have represented this view to Mr. Glyn-Jones, and have formally asked him for a full report. Mr. Glyn-Jones formally replies that our application shall be laid before his Council. The matter is not of great importance, but it seems regrettable that the proceedings of the Association should be so carefully controlled.

Institute of Chemistry Dinner.

The annual dinner of the Fellows and associates of the Institute of Chemistry took place on April 28 at the Trocadero Restaurant, Piccadilly Circus. The President, Dr. T. Stevenson (official analyst to the Home Office), occupied the chair, and the company included Lord Reay, Mr. Justice Byrne, Sir J. Evans (Treasurer Royal Society), Sir E. Frankland, Sir H. T. Wood (Secretary of the Society of Arts), Mr.

K. E. Digby, Dr. Bernard Dyer, Dr. M. J. Russell, Dr. Thorpe, Mr. T. H. Elliott, Mr. J. F. Moulton, Q.C., Mr. H. Kearley, M.P., Mr. H. H. Cozens-Hardy, M.P., Professor Dewar, Dr. J. H. Gladstone, Dr. Ludwig Mond, Mr. W. Mills (President of the Pharmaceutical Society), Dr. H. E. Armstrong, Dr. J. A. Voelcker, Mr. Otto Hehner, Professor J. M. Thomson, Mr. D. Howard, Mr. R. J. Friswell, Mr. T. Fairley, Dr. Corfield, Dr. Wynter Blyth, and Mr. R. B. Pilcher (Secretary). The President, after proposing the usual loyal toasts, gave that of "The Houses of Parliament," Lord Reay and Mr. Cozens-Hardy, M.P., responding. Dr. D. Howard proposed "The Learned Societies." Professor Dewar, in reply, observed that the learned Societies had an enormous piece of work to do, which they were gradually becoming alive to, in the way of cataloguing what had already been done. What was required in this country was a clearer recognition of the fact that the time was past when our great public schools should rely entirely on a classical education, for it was essential that scientific culture should be more fully recognised. Mr. Justice Byrne proposed "The Institute of Chemistry," and the President, in responding, mentioned that the register of the Society now contained the names of 826 Fellows and 120 associates, while there were over 180 registered students training for the examination at the various colleges recognised by the Institute. He looked forward to the time when professional chemists would be endowed with the power of conferring diplomas and exercising the same restrictive functions as were already possessed by the professions of the law and physics.

Public Dispensers' Association.

At a meeting of the Association on April 29, at Bloomsbury Hall, Hart Street, W.C., Dr. G. Dean, head of the Antitoxin Department of the British Institute of Preventative Medicine, gave a lecture on "Antitoxins." The meeting, which included a bevy of St. Bartholomew's nurses, numbered about forty, and was presided over by Mr. Welford (Colney Hatch). Dr. Dean remarked that the mode of preparing diphtheria-antitoxin is to cultivate the bacilli in a peptonised beef-tea neutralised with caustic soda (5 c.c. normal solution to the litre) at a temperature of 35° C. in an incubator through which a current of air is passed. Absence of light is necessary to the growth of the organisms, and the time required is from seven to ten days. The solution is then filtered through a double fold of filter-paper and tested for strength. A small quantity (gradually increased) is then injected deep into the muscles of the neck of a healthy horse. Before injection the skin is shaved, then washed with perchloride-of-mercury solution; the syringe is boiled, and every care taken to ensure complete asepsis. After treatment for two or three months the operation of bleeding is performed by opening the external jugular vein, and inserting a sharp-pointed canula, to which is attached an indiarubber tube leading into a conical bleeding-flask. About 10 litres of serum are taken at a time from a big horse. The flask with its contents is put into an ice-safe, where after a short time the serum separates and is filtered out. Before being sent out, however, each sample is tested by Ehrlich's "death" test, and 0.2 per cent. of carbolic acid is added as a preservative. The antitoxin is most effective when used in liquid, but it can be easily dried *in vacuo*. As regards its use, Dr. Dean said that diphtheria-antitoxin to be completely successful must be used early in the treatment of the disease. After the fourth or fifth day it does not appear to have much effect. He thinks also that it might be used with advantage as a prophylactic in children. Tetanus-antitoxin, although made in much the same way as diphtheria-antitoxin, has several points of dissimilarity. The bacilli will not grow in the presence of oxygen; hydrogen is used instead, and in place of caustic soda, a $\frac{1}{2}$ -per-cent. solution of sodium formate is used for neutralisation. A horse once immunised to tetanus-toxin will go on producing the antitoxin for years. It is not so with the diphtheria-antitoxin. Unlike diphtheria, the curative properties of tetanus-antitoxin are almost *nil*, as the patient is generally too far gone before the remedy can be applied. Questions being invited, Mr. Smith (Islington) asked whether electricity would have any effect in the development of antitoxin, and whether in the case of blood-serum and antitoxin the rays of polarisation were effected. Mr. Langford-Moore (St. Bartholomew's) asked

whether Dr. Dean had any experience of formaldehyde as an antitoxin preservative. Dr. Dean, in reply, said a great deal had been done in the electricity question, but the results had not been conclusive. He had no experience of formaldehyde as a preservative. Thymol had been used, but the generally-accepted preservative was phenol. After Dr. Dean had been thanked for his lecture, the company retired to the anteroom, where the merits of sterilised coffee and other anti-intoxicating beverages were discussed.

Seven Jubilees.

The Council of the Chemical Society have arranged to entertain at a dinner on June 9 the following Past-Presidents who have completed a period of fifty years' Fellowship of the Society:—Lord Playfair, Sir J. H. Gilbert, Sir E. Frankland, K.C.B., Professor Odling, Sir F. A. Abel, Bart., Dr. A. W. Williamson, and Dr. J. H. Gladstone. It is not stated where the dinner is to be, but anyone who wishes to be present should write to the Assistant Secretary, Chemical Society, Burlington House, W.

Kekulé Memorial.

A circular signed by Professor Dewar, Mr. Carey Foster, Dr. T. E. Thorpe, Dr. Hugo Müller, Professor Japp, and Professor Meldola has been issued this week appealing for subscriptions to the Kekulé memorial. In the course of it the following paragraphs occur:—

The theory of valency and of the linking of atoms, and our present view as to the structure of carbon compounds, have acquired their definite form and clearness by the labours of Kekulé. His theory of benzene derivatives in particular has given the most powerful impulse to investigation in the domain of pure chemistry; while no scientific theory has done more to promote the development of chemistry as a branch of industry.

While Kekulé is eminent by his scientific achievements, he is not less so by reason of the effects produced by his teaching. The publication of his "*Lehrbuch der Organischen Chemie*" marked an epoch in the history of chemistry. This treatise has done more to familiarise chemists with modern views than any other work of the kind.

It is proposed that the memorial should be a statue in bronze of the founder of structural chemistry, to be placed in front of the Chemical Institute at Bonn. Dr. Hugo Müller, 13 Park Square East, Regent's Park, London, N.W., will receive subscriptions.

Midland Pharmaceutical Association.

The annual report of this Association states that the receipts amounted to 50*l.* 9*s.* 9*d.*, and the expenditure, including a loss on the ball of 7*l.* 1*s.* 3*d.*, to 49*l.* 5*s.* 10*d.* The Trade Committee report that the membership of the P.A.T.A. continues to increase. The result of the canvass by Mr. Glyn-Jones, Mr. Prosser, and Mr. C. Thompson, resulted in 90 per cent. of the whole trade becoming members. Five divisional secretaries have been appointed, who are doing good work among the chemists of their respective districts. Much has also been done in the way of getting makers of proprietary goods to place their articles on the protected list, and the committee protest strongly against individual schemes of protection which, it is contended, give much trouble and dissatisfaction to the trade generally. The committee also suggest that it might be a source of gratification to the pharmacist if he were to note the number of protected articles sold in his establishment, as he would then realise the immense personal advantage derived from the work done by the P.A.T.A.

Dewsbury and District Chemists' Association.

At a meeting of this Association, held on May 2, the new Pharmacopœia was discussed, Mr. W. Stead (Heckmondwike) introducing the subject by a short paper. The Association resolved that the Secretary should obtain two or three dozen copies of the Government Poisons Bill, and let each member have a copy, with a view to a discussion on it at the next meeting. [The Bill is not obtainable yet.]

A Lombard Feast.

The "Lombards" Society in connection with Allen & Hanburys (Limited) held their eighth annual dinner at the Holborn Restaurant on Friday evening, April 29. The chair

was occupied by Mr. Cornelius Hanbury, and the following toasts were given:—"The Firm," proposed in an interesting and humorous speech by Mr. T. W. Tullett, and replied to by the Chairman; and "The Chairman," proposed by Mr. F. C. Moss-Miller, and responded to by Mr. Cornelius Hanbury. A capital programme of music was rendered by Messrs. Theo. Swinburne, Clenyy Jones, J. M. Sillitoe, W. J. Petty, J. Ware, and Herbert Brown. Amongst those present were Messrs. Reginald J. Hanbury, Capel F. Hanbury, W. Ralph Dodd, J. Lane, A. H. Solomon, Henry Jenkins, J. Ware, and F. A. Barritt.

Cricket.

The first report of a drug-trade match comes to us this season from the Maypole C.C., who met the Fitzroy C.C. on the Maypole ground at Acton on April 30. The Maypolers had not got over the winter, for they only scored 26, while their opponents compiled 49.

London County Council Chemical Department.

In the annual estimate submitted to the London County Council, on Tuesday, the following were the salaries estimated for the Chemists' Department of the Establishment Committee:—The chemist, 700*l.*; two senior assistants at 350*l.* each, 700*l.*; one first-class assistant, 245*l.*; four second-class assistants ranging from 187*l.* 10*s.* to 200*l.*, 787*l.* 10*s.*; one third-class assistant, 150*l.*; two fourth-class assistants, 185*l.*; one laboratory attendant, 52*l.*; total, 2,819*l.* 10*s.*

L.C.C. Chemicals.

The detailed estimate of the Main Drainage Committee of the London County Council submitted to the Council on Tuesday, showed that with respect to Barking Outfall they estimated for the year for 14,782 tons of lime at 11*s.* 9*d.* per ton (including 600 tons of liquor treatment), and 3,285 tons of iron at 22*s.* 6*d.* per ton (including 300 tons of liquid treatment); total, 12,380*l.* For the Crossness Outfall it was estimated that 9,000 tons of lime would be required at 11*s.* 9*d.* per ton, and 2,250 tons of iron at 22*s.* 6*d.* per ton; total, 7,820*l.* It was not proposed to make any provision for deodorising for the year 1898-99, but there was a stock of chemicals in hand at the outfalls, and at Deptford, as follows:—Manganate of soda, about 90 tons in stock at Barking, 132 tons at Crossness, and 22 tons at Deptford. Sulphuric acid, about 10 tons in stock.

Chemists as Public Men.

Mr. H. Peake, chemist and druggist, Dover, has been re-elected Vice-Chairman of Dover Board of Guardians.

Mr. Frederick Spencer Cullen, chemist, Norwich, has been elected parish warden of St. James's, Norwich.

Mr. H. F. Cook, chemist and druggist, Chesterton, has been elected to the Chesterton Division of the Cambridge County Council.

Mr. J. R. Philpotts, chemist and druggist, Newnham, has been re-elected to the Urban District Council. Mr. Philpotts has been a member of the local governing board for the last twenty-one years.

Mr. J. Straughton, chemist and druggist, Cockermouth, has for the eleventh year been elected Chairman of the Urban District Council. Mr. Straughton has been vice-chairman of the School Board for fifteen years.

Cycling Chemist's Accident.

Mr. John Hoy, chemist, Bridge Street, Leeds, was riding his bicycle, without brake, down Pool Bank, near Otley, on May 1, when he lost control of the machine, and was dashed into a wall near the bottom of the hill. He was removed to the Leeds Infirmary, and on examination was found to be suffering from a scalp-wound on the head. Though still detained in the infirmary, Mr. Hoy is said to be progressing favourably.

Does he also Find Bottles?

The medical officer of Luton has issued a statement which shows that out of a salary of 80*l.* a year he has had to supply 10,000 bottles of medicine yearly. This works out at the rate of a fraction under 2*d.* per bottle, professional services included.

Photographic-trade Exhibition.

On Wednesday, April 27, the exhibitors at the above exhibition, held in Portman Rooms, had supper together. The opportunity was taken of presenting the Secretary, Mr. A. C. Brookes, with a gold watch as a mark of appreciation of his efforts in organising the exhibition. The exhibitors expressed themselves satisfied with the success of the exhibition.

Shipwrecked Drugs.

Thirteen cases of drugs and chemicals, washed ashore between Brighton and Lancing, to which references were made in the *C. & D.*, October 23, 1897, page 645, and November 13, 1897, page 747, have been disposed of to Brighton chemists. The net proceeds, after payment of salvage claims, have been handed over to the Admiralty.

Chemist Convicted of Forgery.

At the Central Criminal Court on April 30, Edward Charles Ludwig Kressel, chemist, was charged on remand with forging and uttering various sums of money, under circumstances detailed in the *C. & D.*, March 26, page 492. Prisoner was convicted, and sentenced to fifteen months' hard labour.

Burglars at a Druggists'-sundries House.

At the Clerkenwell County Sessions on May 3, Henry Smith (21) and James Compton (20), labourers, pleaded guilty to entering the warehouse of Messrs. Solport Brothers, 66 Shaftesbury Street, N., and stealing therefrom a quantity of silk and mackintosh and a number of chest-protectors, valued at 50*l*. The circumstances of the capture of the prisoners were related in the issue of the *C. & D.* for April 23, page 659. The prisoners had been previously convicted, and were now sentenced to six and nine months' hard labour respectively.

Dangerous Chemical Cargo.

A Board of Trade inquiry was held at Liverpool this week into the abandonment of the Liverpool steamer *Legislator*, which carried amongst her cargo a quantity of chemicals, including sulphuric acid, phosphorus, chlorate of potash, benzene, spirit of wine, collodion, and carbolic acid. These took fire, and the vessel had to be abandoned, with the loss of four lives. Evidence was given amongst others by Mr. W. R. Paton, manager for Messrs. Greenshields, Cowie & Co., Liverpool, who shipped a quantity of sulphuric acid packed in five leaden cases, a drum of spirit of wine, a case of spirit of nitre, a case of carbolic-acid crystals, and other goods of a similar character. Mr. John Murphy, chemical-manufacturer, Vauxhall Works, Liverpool, stated that he supplied the sulphuric acid, packed in leaden cases by request of the shippers, their usual practice being to send it in glass carboys. He had never heard of sulphuric acid causing fire; it would, in fact, prevent fire. It would char or rot any organic matter, such as wood. He did not know exactly what its action would be if it came in contact with chlorate of potash, but in itself it was safe enough. Mr. W. Jones, manager for Messrs. Falk, Summerfield & Co., who shipped some benzene, collodion, and other chemicals in the vessel, spoke to the method of packing, which, he said, was in strong export cases, and in every way satisfactory. Mr. W. Chattaway, superintendent of the Apothecaries' Hall, Blackfriars, London, described the shipment of a drum of spirit of wine, a quantity of solution of ammonia, spirit of nitre, turpentine, ether, and other chemicals purchased from the Apothecaries' Hall. He said the packing was upon the most approved principles, and no difficulty or accident had ever before arisen in connection with any goods of the kind shipped by them. Examined specially on his knowledge as a chemist, he was asked if a certain quantity of sulphuric acid came in contact with a certain quantity of chlorate of potash, would the chemical action set up be at all dangerous? Witness said there would be very grave danger; the action would be extremely violent, and certainly might cause a fire. Dr. Dupré, chemical officer to the Explosives Department, said in his opinion the chemicals as stowed in this ship formed the most remarkable mixture that could be made for danger. None of the substances were spontaneously inflam-

mable except phosphorus. He attributed the fire to the spontaneous combustion of the phosphorus, owing to some defect in one or more of the tins which contained it. An alternative cause might be the leakage of sulphuric acid coming in contact with the chlorate of potash, which would produce a dangerous and violent combustible. He recommended that tins of phosphorus conveyed on board a ship should be placed in a tank full of water.

Judgment was given on May 4, the Court finding that the fire arose from the spontaneous combustion of the phosphorus, but no blame is attached to the packers of any of the chemicals. The stowage of the sulphuric acid and phosphorus on top of fourteen casks of chlorate of potash was neither proper nor safe, however, and the Court was of opinion that it is eminently desirable that those who send out goods of so dangerous a character should in some way intimate to those through whose hands they may have to pass the peculiar dangers attaching to such articles.

Drug-adulteration in Middlesex.

From the annual return to the Middlesex County Council it appears that the druggists in the county have come very satisfactorily out of the last year's tests. Camphor, castor oil, chlorodyne lozenges, compound-liquorice powder, cough-tablets, glycerin, linseed oil, liquorice powder, olive oil, soda-water, tincture of rhubarb, and tincture of valerian, sampled frequently, were all found unadulterated, and seidlitz powders and compound-rhubarb pills were the only drugs complained of. In the former case the vendor was a small general dealer, who was prosecuted and fined, and the latter cases arose at the same kind of shop. The adulteration in respect of the pills was so slight that there were no prosecutions.

Acetylene Explosion.

Messrs. Willson & Hughes, of St. Neots, have lately laid down a complete plant for the manufacture of carbide of calcium for commercial purposes in that town, and a few days ago an installation of acetylene gas was provided for the Carlyon Arms. An "Incanto" generator was fixed in the basement of the hotel, and the landlord's son, fancying that the stock of gas was running low, went into the basement with a candle to inspect the generator. The result was an explosion and two persons badly injured.

An Overdose of Laudanum.

Mr. Thos. Padwick, who for upwards of thirty years has carried on business in Redhill, met his death on April 29 by what appears to have been a fatal mistake on his own part. Deceased had for some time past suffered from nervousness and insomnia, and, although the fact was unknown to his family, it appears, from the evidence adduced at the inquest, that he was in the habit of taking laudanum. On the day preceding his death, with a view to induce sleep, he had evidently taken an overdose, for he was found in a comatose state, and died in spite of all medical efforts to rouse him. There is no ground for suspecting that the act of causing his death was intentional, and the jury returned a verdict of death by misadventure.

No Proof against the Powder.

At an inquest held at Higher Openshaw, on April 27, on the body of an infant, it transpired that the mother, shortly before the death, gave the child a Fenning's powder, which she believed was good for children teething. The Coroner (Mr. S. Smelt) said he did not know whether it was a good or a bad thing for children to have a Fenning's powder. It might be a good thing for a child if it was teething, but it was evident that this child died from fever or measles, and not from teething. Anybody by consulting a medical dictionary could prescribe the proper medicine if they knew what was the matter. But the difficulty was in diagnosing the disease, and any person who administered a medicine without being certain of the malady was exceedingly foolish. He told the mother that instead of relying on her own judgment she ought to have called in a doctor, and something might have been done for the child, although even doctors with their years of experience and study are liable to make a mistake.

Strychnine for Seidlitz-powder.

Dr. Ambrose, the Essex County Coroner, held an inquiry at Ilford on April 28 concerning the death of Mrs. Darling, wife of the Rev. O. W. Darling, who died through taking strychnine. It appears that the deceased had complained of headache, and her husband advised her to take a seidlitz-powder. Deceased had a medicine-chest, and took by mistake a powder which proved to be rat-poison. Dr. Aitken, who was called in, found a blue paper on the mantelpiece similar to those used for seidlitz-powders, which had contained strychnine, and was the cause of death. The jury returned a verdict of death from misadventure.

Battle's Vermin-killer in Provision-shops.

The Hastings Coroner (Mr. Charles Sheppard) evidently requires enlightenment on the Pharmacy Act. At an inquest held at Bexhill on May 1 on the death of a labourer's daughter, who had poisoned herself with Battle's vermin-killer (which contained, amongst other ingredients, $2\frac{1}{4}$ gr. of strychnine), he said he did not think it was a material point as to how she came by the poison. It was evident she had it in her possession. The police had made inquiries with a view to ascertaining where the young woman had purchased the poison, but no evidence could be obtained as to that. Battle's vermin-killer was a very common thing, and was sold by nearly every shopkeeper who sold provisions. It was an easy matter to go into a shop and obtain a packet, for it was sold by no end of people. He thought he was correct in saying that it was not one of the poisons which came under the Poisons Act, and the purchaser of a packet was not required to give name and address, so that it was obtainable with very little difficulty.



Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Business Changes.

Mr. Harvey has opened a pharmacy at 24 Mitchil Street, Clonmel.

Mr. E. F. McKenna, registered druggist, Clonmel, has removed from 20 to 46 O'Connell Street.

Mr. P. N. White, J.P., pharmaceutical chemist, Sligo, has taken over the premises owned by Dr. Condon, J.P., at East Port, Ballyshannon, which he is remodelling and fitting up as a first-class pharmacy.

A Protest Against Progress.

At a meeting on April 30 of the Dublin Trades Council a resolution was passed strongly condemning the use of patent ball-stoppered bottles for mineral waters on the ground that Sir Charles Cameron, public analyst, had stated that such bottles were a danger to health, and that their use was an injury to cork-cutters and mineral-water bottlers and wirens.

A Draw.

The Kanturk Guardians last week considered the tenders of four firms for drugs. The tender of Messrs. Leslie, of Dublin, was the lowest; next in order came that of Messrs. J. J. Eggleston, of Kanturk; then Mr. Sewell, Killarney; and highest, Mr. O'Sullivan, of Newmarket. The prices, compared on the basis of six-months' supply of eighty of the medicines most used, came out as follows:—Leslie, 20*l.* 15*s.* 4*d.*; Eggleston, 26*l.* 16*s.* 9*d.*; Sewell, 27*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*; and O'Sullivan, 28*l.* 17*s.* Each contractor had his own advocate on the board, and, after a spirited discussion, it was resolved to give the contract to the local chemist. A poll was taken, and the voting for Messrs. Eggleston and O'Sullivan being equal, the Chairman declared a draw. The matter dropped for the present.



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Fire.

Among the firms who suffered from the great fire in Glasgow last week were Messrs. Cockburn & Co., wholesale and export chemists, 57 East Howard Street.

Glasgow Parish Medicines.

At the monthly meeting of the Glasgow City Parish Council on Tuesday the Medical Committee reported having purchased from the Glasgow Apothecaries' Company 50 gals. of cod-liver oil at 84*s.* per barrel of 25 gals.

Glasgow Council Dispensers.

The Medical Committee of the Glasgow City Parish Council reported to the Council on Tuesday an application for an increase to his present salary of 120*l.* per annum from Mr. John M. Halley, the principal dispenser in the Parish Dispensary in Parliamentary Road. The Committee recommended that the application should remain over for a year. The Council confirmed this decision. It was also reported that Mr. John Stalker, the assistant dispenser, was leaving the service of the Parish Council in the beginning of June.

The Glasgow Apothecaries' Company

intimate that in entering into a new co-partnership they have given Mr. Robert McAdam, the managing partner, a larger share, and the following travellers and heads of departments an interest, in the business, viz.:—Messrs. John Walker, James Murdoch, William Maltman, David C. Houston, Colin Campbell, John Bannatyne, Stephen Young, John McTurk, James McLeod, and William Bowie. These ten gentlemen, the circular states, have been in the employment of the company for an average of over twenty-six years each.

Chemical-works Closed.

Owing to the increase in the price of coal it has been decided to close for the present the Irvine works of the United Alkali Company, together with the caustic department of Messrs. William Henderson & Co.'s works. In the latter works the men were paid off on Saturday, and the syndicate workers will leave off at the end of the week. The manufacture of caustic will be continued at another of the works to complete the contracts. It has been found impossible to compete with English and other firms, as the increase in the price of coal adds something like 7*s.* 6*d.* per ton to the caustic.

Athletic Pharmacists.

The card of the Edinburgh Pharmacy Athletic Club for the coming season, 1898-99, shows that from April 6 to October 29 the members have fifty-seven days set apart for showing their superiority or otherwise in one or other kind of game or sport, as it is commonly but erroneously termed. The Club's seventh annual "sports" will be held at Powderhall on May 25, at 6 45 P.M. The annual five-a-side football competition is fixed for May 16. There are also swimming-fixtures, golfing, cycling, and cricket.

Edinburgh University.

At a recent meeting of the University a statement of the financial position of the University was submitted, from which it appears that the total expenditure of the University for salaries to principal and professors is 47,750*l.* and for general expenses 16*l.* The income is just about the same. The total of the endowment fund is 606,000*l.*, but the Court found it necessary to say "the truth must be told—the University is in great need of money." Although the average number of matriculated medical students during the

past seven years has been 1,641 per annum, the difference between the number in the first year and in the last year of the septennium is deplorable, 1,951 having matriculated in the year 1890-91, and only 1,419 in the year 1896-97. It is generally understood that the decrease is not due to any falling-off in the education provided by the medical school of the University, but because other medical schools throughout the country have much improved their curricula.

Forfarshire Chemists' Association.

The annual meeting of this Association was held at the Imperial Hotel, Arbroath, on April 27. Mr. Charles Kerr, Dundee, presided, and briefly addressed the meeting. He claimed that they had done some good during the year by forwarding the interests of the Pharmacy Bill. Mr. Kerr was re-elected President, though he intimated his wish to retire, and Mr. William Cumming, of Dundee, was appointed Secretary and Treasurer in the place of Mr. J. Russell, Dundee, who desired to be relieved. After the formal business of the meeting had been got through, Mr. J. Rutherford Hill, of Edinburgh, read a paper on regulations for the sale of poisons, out of which a discussion of some interest arose. Mr. Jack, Arbroath, brought forward a complaint, which was evidently felt rather keenly by the other Arbroath chemists as well, that the medicines in the infirmary of that town were compounded by an unqualified lady. Mr. D. Storrar, Kirkcaldy, said the practice was no doubt wrong, but unfortunately, he believed, it was perfectly legal. The Pharmacy Act, he considered, only regulated sales of poisons, and the lady did not sell the medicines. Other speakers, however, commented on the matter, and it was generally agreed that the Association or the Pharmaceutical Society might make some representation. Mr. Davidson, Montrose, said the chemists in that town sent a man in turn to the infirmary to dispense the medicines, and the Arbroath chemists in chorus replied, "That is the proper way." The Dundee chemists also expressed their sympathy, and Mr. Storrar, when he heard that the unqualified lady supplied medicines to the outdoor poor, said that east a different light on the matter. Mr. Hill said he had no doubt when the Pharmacy Act said "sale" it meant "distribution," and he was not sure that when the infirmary gave medicines, the cost being paid for out of the subscriptions, they were not sold. He hoped the mention of the matter would lead to a cure being effected. After the business proceedings the members dined together under the chairmanship of Mr. Jack, with Mr. Naysmith as croupier.

New J.P.'s.

Among the gentlemen who have been appointed Justices of Peace for the County of Aberdeen are Mr. Robert Hull, chemist, Woodside, Aberdeen, and Mr. George Jameson Shepherd, wholesale druggist, 74 College Street, Aberdeen.

French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

"REVUE DES MÉDICAMENTS NOUVEAUX et de quelques médications nouvelles" is the title of a small 400-page volume by M. Crinon, the fifth edition of which has been recently published. It is an excellent guide to the remedies introduced during the past ten years. The author indicates the mode of preparation, the physical and chemical properties, the physiological action, and therapeutic virtues of each medicament, as well as the pharmaceutical forms and doses.

INSTRUCTION IN CHEMISTRY in France is just now receiving special attention. During the past fifteen months the sums subscribed by manufacturers and bankers in the district of Nancy for promoting the study of chemistry and physics, as applied to industry, in connection with the University of that town, have reached 400,000f. (16,000l.). The Lyons University has been authorised to contract a loan of 626,500f. (25,000l.), to be applied (1) to completing the Chemical Institute, (2) extending the laboratories of experimental and comparative medicine and physiology, (3) completing the laboratory of maritime physiology at Tamaris, Var.

THE SALE OF POISONS.—On December 30 last, Mme. Struff, wife of a wine-shop keeper, purchased from a dealer in chemicals, Boulevard Richard Lenoir, Paris, 50c. worth of cyanide of potassium, with which she committed suicide. The Judge held that "any shopkeeper who sells a poisonous substance to a married woman with which she commits suicide, without keeping a register of the sale, is liable to a claim for damages at the instance of the husband." The dealer's only defence was that his trade obliged him to keep certain poisons, but he could not produce a register. He was condemned to fifteen days' imprisonment, 500f. (20l.) fine, and 800f. (32l.) damages to the husband. The regulations concerning the sale of poisons are very strict in France, and, according to the text of the law, they can be obtained from a pharmacien solely, and then only upon a doctor's prescription. Unfortunately, certain substances are not included amongst those controlled exclusively by pharmaciens, and cyanide of potassium is one of these.

PARIS SOCIETY OF PHARMACY.—A recently-published list of members of this Society shows that it consists at the present time of fifty-nine resident members. These are the active members who attend the monthly meetings. M. Adrian, of the well-known firm of manufacturing chemists, Adrian & Co., heads the list, having been elected in 1860; while other well-known pharmaciens, such as MM. Vigier, Planchon, Jungfleisch, and Petit, have been connected with the Society for thirty years or upwards. The last election was in November, 1897, the successful candidate being M. Moreigne. There are six honorary and four associate members, M. Berthelot being amongst the latter. The French corresponding-members number eighty-nine, and include many well-known names. Sixteen countries are represented by the foreign corresponding-members, Germany heading the list with eight names. The United Kingdom has only half that number—viz., Messrs. Attfield, J. Carteighe, and Redwood, all elected in 1867, and Mr. Griffith, of Dublin whose connection with the Paris Society dates from 1876. The United States has also four members—Messrs. John. Faber, Thomas Jenkins, and Charles Rice, all of New York, and Professor Remington, of Philadelphia. Turkey, Brazil, Roumania, and Norway are also amongst the countries mentioned.

SCIENTIFIC REASONING.—The well-known *litterateur* and member of the French Academy, M. Brunetière, who gained notoriety a few years ago by initiating the startling subject of the bankruptcy of science, wrote recently a review of the Dreyfus case, in the course of which he commented caustically on the part taken by scientific men and "intellectuals" (to use the current slang of the day) in the controversy. M. Duclaux, the director of the Pasteur Institute, was specially referred to. "How," asked M. Brunetière, "can it be proved that a 'Treatise of Microbiology,' which is perhaps a compilation destined to be sold as waste-paper in twenty-five years, requires more intelligence than is necessary for judging one's fellows or for commanding armies?" M. Duclaux has replied by an article in the *Revue du Palais*, in which he commences by regretting the "breeze of madness that has blown over France." He twits M. Brunetière with not knowing what science is—"he sees it where it is not, and cannot see it where it is"—and then continues: "What is scientific reasoning? Simply this, a reasoning made with a salutary fear of making a mistake and an earnest desire to escape it. A *savant* avoids an error as a good Catholic flees from sin, only the former runs less risk of succumbing, because his great care is to abstain from seeking the force of resistance in himself. What saves him generally is that, once his reasoning made, he hastens to find an outside test of the veracity of his discovery. Each scientist takes such means as he has; the astronomer by observation, the chemist by experiments, &c. The great thing is that researches are made honestly and without prejudice, taking the material of their conviction outside of themselves, beyond the surroundings in which the judgment they desire to verify was formed." M. Duclaux goes on to say that he hopes his "Treatise of Microbiology" will become waste-paper within a certain number of years. He hopes the rising generation will far outstrip him. "For every *savant*, if he is wise, must know that what he writes is an imperfect truth destined to be effaced, although leaving a trace."

Colonial and Foreign News.

BUSINESS CHANGE.—Mr. George Eggerss, general agent, of 12 Alte Groningerstrasse, Hamburg, has retired, and the business will henceforth be conducted by his son, Mr. Hans Eggerss, and Mr. Louis Tarchow.

WAR BY ADVERTISEMENT.—This is by far the better way of carrying on war. It is the translation of an advertisement occupying a column in a Madrid newspaper:—"Viva España. War against ——— Emulsion. The first duty of every good Spanish patriot is to despise the products of New York, and as ——— Emulsion is made in that odious capital, we ought to despise it. Espinar's Emulsion is genuinely Spanish, more efficacious, cheaper, and recommended by the principal physicians in Spain. It is the article to buy." The irony would be complete if the proprietors of ——— Emulsion would bring an action against their uncivil rival.

SWISS INDUSTRIES.—Continued advantage is taken of the waterfalls in Switzerland for manufacturing-purposes, as may have been observed from the illustrated notice on electrolytic chloride of potash which we printed last week. We have since observed that two new factories for the manufacture of calcium carbide are in process of erection. One is in Chevers and the other is projected by a Franco-Swiss firm. Both will have machinery equal to 3,000-horse power, and will be entirely electrical. We also observe that a factory for the production of phosphorus is projected in Leben. This factory has machinery equal to 2,000-horse power.

RACE FOR LIFE.—Mr. F. B. L. Johnston, chemist and druggist, President Street, Johannesburg, was quietly riding home on his bicycle to Braamfontein the other day. Hearing a noise in the rear, he glanced round and was terrified to see a runaway horse, yoked to a light trap, bearing directly down upon him. In an instant, Mr. Johnston was pedalling for all he was worth to get out of the way. That was impossible, so with a frantic effort Mr. Johnston dashed on to the pavement, the runaway passing within a yard of him. Mr. Johnston was so overcome by his adventure that he had to be conveyed to an hotel hard by, where he gradually recovered after partaking of restoratives.

TRADE ACTIVITY IN RUSSIA.—According to the St. Petersburg newspaper, *Viedmosti*, a Russian steamship-company is about to establish a regular communication between the Black Sea ports and Yokohama. They intend to export petroleum, and in exchange for this product, camphor and other commodities will be brought back. The same journal also says that the Japanese Ministry of Trade has lately sent one of its officials to Russia with a view to finding openings for Japanese goods in that country. The official has visited St. Petersburg, Moscow, Warsaw and Kieff, where exhibitions connected with the trade and industries of Japan are to be held. Such an exhibition was lately opened at Odessa at the instigation of the Japanese Consul of that port.

SERBIAN PHARMACY.—A new pharmaceutical law has just been passed by the Servian Parliament. It provides that in Belgrade, the capital, there shall be one pharmacy for every 8,000 inhabitants, and in the provinces one to every 6,000. The concessions will be entrusted to a department of chemistry, and there will be a yearly inspection of the pharmacies and a revision of the prices. It is provided that no one shall commence the study of pharmacy who has not passed a certain scholastic standard, and that service in the pharmacy must extend to five years before the person can enter for his diploma. The new law recognises the diplomas of the Universities of Vienna, Graz, Prague, Budapest, Berlin, and St. Petersburg, as well as those of the Universities of Belgrade.

DISCOVERY OF FUCHSIN.—Mr. P. W. Hofmann, a nephew of the late Professor A. W. von Hofmann, relates how his uncle discovered fuchsin. It will be remembered that in 1857 Dr. W. H. Perkin, then a pupil of Hofmann at the College of Science in Oxford Street, discovered mauve during experiments upon the interaction of chromates with aniline. The year after, Hofmann himself had mixed aniline with carbon tetrachloride, and heated the mixture to 100° C. Returning to it another day he found the mixture changed

into a splendid colour which dazzled the eye, and he exclaimed, "So etwas Schönes sah ich noch nie. Wenn der Farbstoff nur färbt." He soon put his aspiration to practical trial by dyeing some ribbons and getting his young wife to trim her hat with them.

SULPHONAL-MANUFACTURE.—Those who follow our market-reports will have noticed that there has been great difficulty recently in obtaining sulphonal, and probably few are aware of the reasons for that. It is really because the manufacture of the drug is one of the greatest nuisances on the face of the earth. The odour of mercaptol, from which it is prepared, is equal to that of a million cats, and a whiff of the small cats' house at the Zoo is a perfume compared to the breath of the breeze that has passed over a sulphonal-factory. Messrs. Leo Fossen & Co., chemical-manufacturers, Kirdorf, near Homburg, had to pay a fine of 200m. for creating a nuisance in that neighbourhood, on account of the mercaptol, and recently the permission to manufacture the article has been withdrawn from them.

LATIN-AMERICAN PHARMACY.—We observe from the last number of *La Farmacia* received that Señor José de Morales, who represented the Pharmaceutical Society of Mexico at the International Congress at Brussels, reports at considerable length upon the success of the meeting. The same issue of *La Farmacia* contains the programme of the Latin-American Scientific Congress which was held at Buenos Ayres last month. Bolivia, Chili, Guatemala, Mexico, Ecuador, and Venezuela are directly represented in this Congress as well as Brussels. Meetings were held in seven sections, one of them being devoted to natural science, one to medicine, and one to physical chemical science. From the programme we judge that there was every prospect of a successful meeting, and at the present moment, when there is a struggle between the Anglo-Saxon and the Latin for supremacy in one part of the Western hemisphere, it is notable that the Latins are as one when scientific matters come under consideration, and that they can maintain a Congress so complete in its arrangements as the Buenos Ayres one.

PARTNERSHIP DISPUTE.—On April 4, Judge Archibald gave judgment in the case of C. Lyman v. Holden and others, which was a suit concerning the partnership of the firm of Lyman, Sons & Co., Montreal. A partnership was formed on January 1, 1879, between H. Lyman, Alex. Mausen, C. Lyman (the plaintiff), R. C. Lyman, and Dame Delia A. Wells (the plaintiff's mother), under the name of Lyman, Sons, & Co., wholesale druggists. Under the terms of this partnership, plaintiff was entitled to draw 20 per cent. of the net profits of the business. The bulk of the capital was held by Dame Wells, plaintiff having little or none. The business was run at a loss, and in two years plaintiff resolved to retire, and notified his mother to that effect. She, however, prevailed upon him to remain in the business to protect her interests, agreeing to make good to him the sum of \$2,500 per annum. Shortly afterwards his mother died, and by her last will made defendants her executors. The partnership was dissolved by this death; but at the request of the executors plaintiff remained in the firm. After that, plaintiff alleges, the arbitrators made it appear that he was heavily indebted to the firm, and the sum of \$9,000, which had been charged against his mother, was now wrongfully charged against him. The Court held that the defendants were wrong in reversing the entries made in the books of the firm, and in charging plaintiff with the sum named. A counterclaim by plaintiff for \$5,000, charges for two years' services to the executors, was abandoned at the trial.

SACCHARIN.—An order has recently come into force forbidding the importation and sale of saccharin in Hungary.

THE medical staff at the Birmingham General Hospital have been called upon to operate on a dog-patient. A little girl, full of trouble, brought her pet-terrier and explained that it had fallen downstairs and broken its leg. A member of the surgical staff discovered that the dog's shoulder-blade was fractured. This was duly dressed, an out-patient's ticket was made out, and the child told that she must bring the animal on the following morning. The patient's name was entered on the hospital-note as "Gyp ———."

Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland.

PRESENTATION TO MR. WELLS.

AT Dublin on April 25, the winter session of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland was brought to a close by an open meeting held at 67 Lower Mount Street. The President (Mr. R. J. Downes) occupied the chair, and there was an appreciative audience.

The PRESIDENT in some general comments referred to the new Pharmacopœia, which he anticipated would give them occupation during the recess. He had arranged for Professor C. R. C. Tichborne to give them his promised lecture the following Wednesday on the new Pharmacopœia, but the arrangement had to be cancelled, as it appeared that the volume was as yet a private book, although in the hands of the reviewers. He had had a half-hour's inspection of the book in Dawson Street, and he might say, not as a complaint, but as a suggestion, that an advance copy should have been sent to the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland. He had been offered the loan of the book for a fortnight on the condition that its contents were not to be noted publicly, but he declined the offer with thanks. The Pharmaceutical Society had not been slighted in not getting an early copy, for the Apothecaries' Hall had not yet received one. Professor Tichborne got a copy, but was not at liberty to part with it.

The HONORARY SECRETARY next read

THE SESSIONAL REPORT 1897-98.

It gave a full account of the several meetings which had been held, and the committee, believing that more was necessary to encourage licentiates to join the Society, recommended for the consideration of the Council—(1) That accommodation should be made in connection with the classes for post-graduate study and for assistance in research for the members of the Society; (2) that the books at present in a bookcase in the office should be arranged, numbered, and catalogued, and the catalogue published with the Calendar, and that they should be available to any member of the Society; also that a special glass case be provided for rare materia medica and other specimens to be collected by members and presented to the Society; (3) that it is desirable that a reading-room should be open where the journals and periodicals could be read; and (4) as it is a matter of complaint that no provision is made by the Society for the occupation of the spare hours of the assistants and apprentices in the matter of recreation, it would be advisable that some should be made, and it is suggested that if a certain part of the premises, which it is understood is at present a loss to the Society, were fitted up as a gymnasium in care of a committee, a great boon would be conferred on the juniors. The report concluded with thanks to various gentlemen.

The PRESIDENT said they had shown the Council that there was plenty of work for them to do, and he hoped they would favourably consider the recommendations.

Mr. W. F. WELLS, jun., proposed a vote of thanks to the committee who had conducted the meetings. The motion was carried by acclamation. Mr. DORAN briefly returned thanks on behalf of the committee.

Mr. SMITH moved, and Mr. W. V. JOHNSTON seconded, the election to the committee of Mr. J. Michie, M.P.S.I., and Mr. J. S. Ashe, M.P.S.I. This was carried.

Mr. Councillor KELLY proposed a vote of thanks to the President, Mr. R. J. Downes, whom he described as the Grand Old Man of the session. He thought the Past-Presidents would excuse him when he said that none of these gentlemen had grappled with the question of the education of the younger followers of pharmacy like Mr. Downes.

The motion was carried unanimously, and the PRESIDENT replied.

PRESENTATION TO EX-PRESIDENT WELLS.

Dr. Walsh and Mr. Grindley left the platform, and reappeared bearing a massive solid-silver bowl on an ebony stand, together with a handsome silver frame containing the names of those who had subscribed to the testimonial.

The PRESIDENT, again rising, said he had now to discharge an important duty which he knew had for some little time

excited a good deal of interest. He referred to a matter connected with their friend Mr. W. F. Wells, ex-President of the Society. It was the regret of not a few that business and other engagements prevented them from being present that evening, but he assured Mr. Wells that their absence was unavoidable. He had for many years enjoyed the personal friendship of Mr. Wells, in fact, his knowledge of that gentleman dated as far back as the time when Mr. Wells



THE TESTIMONIAL.

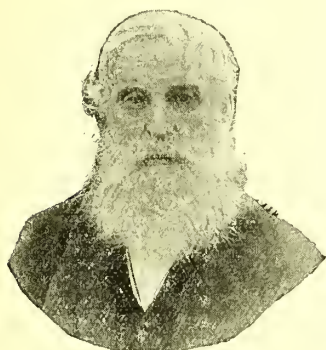
was arrayed in bibs and tuckers, and he was not a very big boy then. Circumstances long forgotten had that evening come into his mind, and he had a suspicion of the time he first saw Mr. Wells walking out of his father's shop in all the glory of his first pair of nether garments. (Laughter.) It was particularly pleasing to see present that evening Mr. Wells's father, who might well be called the Grand Old Man of the Irish drug and chemical trade, and who cer-



THE RECIPIENT

tainly was the father of the drug-trade of Dublin. He (Mr. Downes) was proud to say that he recognised in Mr. Wells, senior, his old master, under whom he served his lawful apprenticeship many years ago, and there was no one in the United Kingdom who bore a better reputation or a better name than that venerable gentleman. (Applause.) To inherit a good name, as his son had done, was a thing to be desired, but it was a still more honourable distinction which

his friend Mr. Wells, jun., inherited, and that was the transmission of the same good name to his own children. In the Good Old Book, which changed not its wisdom, it was written that a "good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children," and in the present case the words were exemplified to the full; and in the same volume was to be found the expression which might more directly commend itself to the pharmaceutical mind, and that was, "a good name is better than precious ointment." As ointment was used in bygone ages to embalm the body, even so the ointment of a good



MR. W. F. WELLS, SEN.

name embalmed the memory of the man who had served his people well. In that sense Mr. Wells, sen., and his respected son had gained that good name which was better than precious ointment. It was some twenty-one years ago that Mr. Wells, jun., had passed his examination, and since that time he was in the forefront of all their legal battles, which he fought and won nobly. He was not always right, but he generally managed to carry the day. Some time ago he (Mr. Downes) and Mr. Wells were opponents on matters pharmaceutical, but they were now pulling together in harness, and would continue to do so. He had received a number of letters from all parts, expressing the admiration in which Mr. Wells was held by the craft, and the only regret felt by the licentiates was that the movement to present Mr. Wells with a testimonial was not made more general, in which case the bowl would probably have been as large again as it was. When started, it was thought that the testimonial would not have been one-fifth of its value; but it showed the esteem and respect in which Mr. Wells was held when the movement, started so spontaneously, was subscribed to the full in the course of a few days. He now begged Mr. Wells's acceptance of the testimonial, together with a list of the subscribers thereto. (Applause.)

Mr. WELLS, who was received with cordial applause, said he found it very difficult to express his sense of the kind words which had been uttered by his old friend the President, and to thank those who had subscribed for the purchase of so beautiful and valuable a present. It was a matter of deep gratitude to him that after the time spent in the several offices of the Society his friends should think his discharge of duty worthy of so choice an expression of their esteem and good will. He became a member of the Society as soon as he qualified as a licentiate—as all should do—and from the moment he joined the Council he had but one object in view, and that was to serve the licentiates, advance the interests of the Society, and conserve to the full the rights and privileges of pharmacy and those lawfully connected with it. He had the name of being a fighting man—(applause)—but he had no desire to fight except in the right, and so long as he believed the cause was a good one he would not count the odds, and was prepared to face all comers. It was unnecessary to go over old ground, but he took the credit of turning even the President from—well, into his present happy state of mind, and enabling him to see things pharmaceutical in their proper light. (Laughter.) It was about nine years ago, when the crisis in pharmacy occurred, that he (the speaker) was elected Vice-President of the Society, and on that occasion he was the recipient of an address as a memento of the fight of 1890, when the Pharmacy Amendment Bill was enacted. He was on that occasion one of three sent over to London, and the result was a matter of trade history. He would not be human if he did not feel honoured and gratified at the latest expression of their feelings towards him. All did not agree with his policy, and there were some who thought it a wrong one, but when he looked back on past battles, and the part he had taken in them, he said without reservation that he would fight them over again if

necessary. He thanked the President for the kind reference to his father, who might fairly be called the father of the drug-trade, seeing that he was sixty-six years in harness, and was still at work every day, although a good deal over eighty years of age. (Applause.) There were now very few in the trade contemporaries with his father—in fact, he believed there were only Mr. Wells, sen., and Mr. E. M. Hodgson of the old stock left. He thanked one and all very heartily for their kindness.

EXAMINATIONS.

THE following are the names of the successful candidates at the April examinations:—

PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION.

Bruce, Joseph, Ramey School, Magherafelt
Cuttiford, Wm. Fredk., 21 Rathgar Avenue, Rathgar, Dublin
Dolan, Patk. Vincent, Marino Villa, Donnycarney, Clontarf, Dublin
Eccles, Robt. Irwin, 81 University Avenue, Belfast
Larkin, Patk. David, Main Street, Listowel
McFarlin, Patk. Joseph, Shop Street, Galway
Montgomery, John, Lancetta, Chichester Park, Belfast
Murphy, Wm. Andrew, Drumhose, Lisnaskea
O'Leary, Daniel, Carter's Medical Hall, Naas
Quinn, Michael Joseph, 4 Mary Street, Galway
Roberts, Annie Ethel, The Square, Enniscorthy
Scott, Geo. Alex. Caldwell, Ulster House, Portrush
Sullivan, James, 13 Grattan Hill, Lower Road, Cork
Todd, Horatio, 82 Hilman Street, Belfast
Young, Hugh Eccles, 8 Ireton Street, Botanic Avenue, Belfast

Thirteen candidates were rejected.

PHARMACEUTICAL ASSISTANTS EXAMINATION.

Hoskin, Harry, 21 Salisbury Street, Belfast

Two candidates were rejected.

REGISTERED DRUGGISTS EXAMINATION.

Carmichael, Charles, 6 Upper Crescent, Belfast
Johnson, George, 36 Lonsdale Street, Belfast
McKenna, Francis, 18 Arlington Street, Belfast
McMullan, Joseph, Church Street, Ballymoney
Moore, Alfred, 39 North Street, Newtownards
Warnock, James, 55 Market Square, Lisburn
Wier, James Albert, 42 Victoria Street, Belfast
Fulton, John, 4 Glenview Terrace, Springfield Road, Belfast

Three candidates were rejected.

PHARMACEUTICAL LICENCE EXAMINATION.

Burke, Wm. Jas. Bray, 1 Herbert Road, co. Wicklow
Collis, Richd., 45 Grove Park, Rathmines, Dublin
Leane, Denis Michl. Harrington, William Street, Listowel
Murray, Wm. Bloomfield, 3 Lower Sackville Street, Dublin
Ross, Archibald Clark, 22 Market Street, Sligo

Eight candidates were rejected.

Dagonet and Chemists' Assistants.

MR. G. R. SIMS (Dagonet) writes as follows in last week's *Referee*:—"I have to thank some hundreds of chemists' assistants who have written me thanking me for drawing attention to their hard lot in losing their Sunday outings. One gentleman urges that our chemists should follow a system which is in vogue in Switzerland. In that enlightened country the chemists of a neighbourhood take it in turn to keep open on Sunday, and each chemist affixes to his closed shop a notice giving the address of the chemist whose assistants are on duty.

"But there is no pleasing everybody. The remarks I made were dictated solely by a desire to benefit a class of workers whose hours are exceptionally long, and who, though men of education, and frequently experts in their profession, often receive salaries which many a working man would turn up his nose at. And lo and behold! a bad wicked man writes me that I have started a crusade on behalf of the chemists' assistants merely in order to curry favour with them, and induce them to recommend 'Tatcho.' Oh! dear, dear! What an evil-minded world it is! Fancy anyone imagining that advertisement ever entered for a moment into the calculations of Dagonet."

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

COUNCIL MEETING.

THE usual monthly meeting of the Council took place on Wednesday. The President referred to the death of Dr. G. Dragendorff, an honorary member, and gave an outline of his career from notes supplied by Professor Greenish, who was one of his pupils. Three new honorary members of the Society were elected—Dr. Leech, Professor Ramsay, and Professor Remsen. A statement which will set Minor candidates at rest was made that candidates will not be examined on the new B.P. till January of next year. Dr Symes cornered the President as to making an official statement of when the Pharmacopœia would be expected to be used by the pharmacists, but could get no definite answer, the President preferring not to make any official statement on the subject. A letter and resolution from the Edinburgh District Trade Association, raising the question of exemption of chemists and druggists from jury-service, caused comments from several councillors who thought something should be done in the matter. Mr. Carteighe soon showed, however, that hopes in that direction were illusory, and in a somewhat dogmatic speech gave his views on the question. The annual report and statement were then considered in committee, and are appended to this report.

The meeting began at 11.15, and besides the President (Mr. Walter Hills) there were present Messrs. Allen, Atkins, Bateson, Bottle, Carteighe, Corder, Cross, Grose, Hampson (Treasurer), Harrison, Martindale, Newsholme (Vice-President), Savory, Southall, Symes, and Warren. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the PRESIDENT rose and referred to the

LOSS BY DEATH

of a distinguished honorary member, Dr. Georg Dragendorff, who died on April 7. Professor Greenish, who was a former pupil of Dr. Dragendorff, had supplied some particulars of his career, which he (the President) read out. Dr. Dragendorff was a native of Rostock, where he was trained as a pharmacist, and took his degree of Ph.D. in 1861. Shortly afterwards he went to St. Petersburg as editor of the Russian *Pharmaceutical Journal*, and director of the chemical laboratories. In 1864 he was appointed to the chair of Pharmacy at Dorpat, which he held till 1891, when the Russianising of the University compelled him to retire to Rostock. At his death he was engaged on a work on medicinal plants of various nations and times. Other works of his were on the detection of poisons and the assay of drugs. In 1881 Dr. Dragendorff wrote his "Plant Analysis," which is of great service to anyone taking up the chemical study of plants. Numerous papers of his are also to be found in the Russian *Pharmaceutical Journal*. The University of Dorpat acquired a great reputation whilst Dr. Dragendorff was there, there being usually about 100 students under him, and to them he had a happy way of imparting his own enthusiasm. In 1875 the Pharmaceutical Society elected Dr. Dragendorff as an honorary member, and in 1885 conferred on him the Hanbury gold medal. The President concluded by saying that he felt sure they all regretted Dr. Dragendorff's death, and hoped they would authorise him to express the deep sympathy of the Council with the members of his family.

ELECTIONS.

Three names were restored to the register, eighteen gentlemen were elected members, forty-three associates in business, eighty associates, and forty students of the Society. Twenty-nine subscriptions were received too late, and the

senders had to pay the 1s. fine for restoration to their former status in the Society.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

The PRESIDENT proposed the election of Dr. Leech, Professor Ramsay, and Professor Remsen as honorary members of the Society. The notices of election have been exhibited in the library, in accordance with the by-laws. The three gentlemen proposed, said the President, were well known,



DANIEL JOHN LEECH, M.D., F.R.C.P.

on account of their work and position. Dr. Leech was Professor of Materia Medica and Therapeutics at the Victoria University, Manchester. He was a member of the General Medical Council, and an active member of the Pharmacopœia Committee, and took great interest not only in materia medica and therapeutics, but in pharmaceutical education in its widest sense.

Professor William Ramsay was Professor of Chemistry at University College, London, and was well known as a great



WILLIAM RAMSAY, Ph.D., F.R.S.

authority on chemistry, and also in connection with the discovery of argon and helium, which he made in conjunction with Lord Rayleigh.

Professor Ira Remsen was Professor of Chemistry at the Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, and had a world-wide reputation as a teacher, and was best known here by his textbook on organic chemistry, "which everyone reads," added the President. The VICE-PRESIDENT seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously. The report of the

BENEVOLENT FUND

Committee was then read. It recommended that the following grants be made to applicants: three of 12l., four of 10l.,

and one of 5*l*. One application was deferred, and one was not entertained. The statement of the

FINANCE

Committee was then read. It showed balances on the

	£	s.	d.
General Fund account...	1,300	5	9
Benevolent Fund account...	1,231	14	0
Donation account...	482	8	5
Orphan Fund account...	178	8	6

The sum of 1,970*l*. 3*s*. 3*d*. was submitted for payment from the General Fund account, which included 514*l*. on account of examinations, 603*l*. for the *Journal*, 771*l*. for salaries, and 36*l*. for law expenses.

The report of the Library Committee was then read. It gave the number of people who had used the library and museum, and how many books had been borrowed from the library during the month. The Committee had also interviewed the school staff and the editor of the *Journal*, and accepted the resignation of one of the lecture assistants. The report of the examinations held in April was then read, it showed that there were 39 candidates for the Major; and of these 21 passed; the Minor candidates were 310, and 207 passed. In Scotland, one of the three Major candidates passed and 44 of the 145 Minor candidates. For the First examination 438 candidates were examined, and 189 passed, and 47 certificates had been received in lieu of passing the examination.

With reference to the examinations the PRESIDENT made a statement as to when the

NEW PHARMACOPŒIA

would be used in the Minor. He said that whilst it was desirable that students should make themselves acquainted with the changes in the new B.P., which is now official, he wished to make the statement that their knowledge would not be tested before the January examination 1899. (Applause.)

Dr. SYMES said he noticed that the President said the B.P., 1898, was now official; he would be glad to know on what authority he made that statement.

The PRESIDENT: I said it has been published.

Dr. SYMES, continuing, said he thought it was desirable that some official statement should be made to chemists, who would be glad to know when they were to commence using it. Chemists were not exactly *wanting* to use the book, but he thought that if a public analyst got the 1885 B.P. preparations, expecting the 1898 preparations, it might create difficulties and unpleasantness. If it is not a matter in which we have a voice (said Dr. Symes) the President, as the highest authority on pharmacy in this country, should make some statement. He could not understand why there was such a lot of mystery surrounding the preparation of the Pharmacopœia. (Hear, hear.) If it had been a book on necromancy, for instance, he could understand it, but over a work of this kind he thought the amount of secrecy observed was not necessary. Chemists would be glad to know their position in the matter.

The PRESIDENT said the question was rather a rambling one, and he was sorry he was not in a position to give an official answer. Technically, he said, the B.P. came into operation as soon as it was gazetted, but practically it could not; but when it could be expected to be universally used he was afraid that even the President of the Pharmaceutical Society could not say. He was sorry there was so much secrecy about this sort of thing; he would like conditions to be different, but being prepared in accordance with an Act of Parliament even the Medical Council cannot alter them except by obtaining another Act.

Mr. HARRISON thought that both the question and answer represented the difficulty they were in. It certainly could not be used yet, as many chemists and medical men had not even seen it. It would have been good and wise if the Medical Council could have fixed a definite date after which prescriptions should be prepared with the new articles, as the alterations are many and serious.

Mr. HAMPSON said the question placed the President in an anomalous position, but the time, he thought, had come when the Society should seek to obtain its proper status in regard to the Pharmacopœia. (Hear, hear.) Their position

was distinctly humiliating. They should occupy, he thought at least an equal position with medical men in its preparation. In their present position they were merely servants and had no voice in the matter, whilst in all other civilised countries pharmacists had a status in the preparation of the Pharmacopœia and were more honoured.

Mr. CROSS said he would like to make a remark on the subject. He could not help thinking that there was a great fuss about nothing; one would think there had never been a new Pharmacopœia before. He remembered the last B.P. coming out, and they had then the same conditions. It should be remembered that medical men were no better acquainted with the work than the poor unfortunate chemist.

The PRESIDENT said all this talk had arisen out of a simple question, which he was not sure was in order. (Laughter.) All he could say in answer to Dr. Symes was that as the book was not obtainable till the 11th it was obvious that no one would be under any disability. He would also repeat that agreement with the Medical Council in regard to the preparation was out of the question, as the Act already defines the persons who are to prepare it. Chemists should endeavour to get their medical men acquainted with the new book, and ask them to specify which Pharmacopœia they wished to be used.

Dr. SYMES said the difficulty he had mentioned was a real one. He had heard of one chemist indicating to medical men in his district that he would use the preparations of the new B.P. after a certain date, whilst another chemist had said he should not use the new book until medical men indicated that they were using it. The difficulty was far from imaginary.

The PRESIDENT said he had received a very interesting report from the Executive of the North British Branch, which he thought they would read with interest. They would have to wait, however, till it was published, which would be shortly.

LETTERS.

A letter was received from Messrs. Matthews and Upsher Smith, thanking the Society for giving them permission to work in the Research Laboratory. The Edinburgh District Trade Association, through their Secretary, Mr. Claude F. Henry, sent a resolution urging the Council to find means of exempting chemists and druggists from

JURY-SERVICE.

and hoped they would have a clause to that effect in the next Pharmacy Bill. The letter also mentioned that they had a precedent in the Dentists Act. The letter was referred to the Law and Parliamentary Committee.

The PRESIDENT said he observed the resolution spoke of the next Pharmacy Bill. He hardly thought anyone would be so rash as to take up another Bill after the experience of the present one.

Dr. SYMES remarked that he thought the Association made a point in asking for exemption from jury-service, whereupon

Mr. CARTEIGHE jumped up to say he was sorry that Dr. Symes and the Association did not know that the question had been raised scores of times. He did not say it was inequitable to ask for exemption, but only that the Government would not look at any Bill containing such a suggestion, and until the Society can command the House of Commons by having its own members there in sufficient numbers they had to depend on the support of the Government for their Bills. He would say, privately, that though he sympathised with the chemists and druggists as being quite as much entitled to exemption as pharmaceutical chemists, he had been told many times in the lobbies of the House that it would be a serious matter to deprive the community of its most intelligent members. (Hear, hear.) Almost all the professional bodies had been exempted, but before long he thought they would find their names put back again on the lists, as the Government had shown by their action in the case of the Fire Brigade Bill that they did not view exemption with favour and would before long sweep away the whole list of exemptions. Serving on juries was a duty that should be borne cheerfully by everybody. It was quite possible to draft a Bill with the exemption clause in it, but, as they had found to their cost, it was no use expecting the Government to look at such a measure.

No future Government would, he thought, exempt intelligent persons.

Mr. ATKINS said the discussion was intensely interesting, and he hoped that Mr. Carteighe did not mean his remarks to be private as he said.

Mr. CARTEIGHE explained that he spoke in his private capacity, not as ex-President.

Mr. ATKINS, continuing, said it was an odd feature that the growth of intelligence was not likely to be of benefit for jury-exemption. This closed the public business.

ANNUAL REPORT.

In presenting the fifty-seventh Annual Report and Financial Statement, it is unnecessary to refer in detail to the work of the Council during the past year, as the proceedings have been fully reported each month.

LIBRARIES.

The value of the libraries in London and Edinburgh has been still further enhanced by the addition of important new books, partly by purchase, and partly by donation. The attendances, and the circulation of books, remain satisfactory.

MUSEUMS.

The materia medica collection of the museum in London has been rearranged in accordance with the classification adopted in the lectures in the Society's School, and the new arrangement appears to have facilitated the work of students, and to have given general satisfaction. Numerous donations have been received from home and foreign correspondents, and the Herbarium has been enriched by more than 300 specimens of medicinal plants.

Considerable alterations have been made during the year in the museum of the Society in Edinburgh with a view to placing in position the College of Physicians and Scoresby-Jackson collections of materia medica referred to in the last report, and this work is still in progress. A handsome central floor case, presented by the College of Physicians, has been placed in the front portion of the ground floor apartment, the whole of which is now devoted to museum purposes.

EXAMINATIONS.

For the "First" examination 1,414 candidates were examined during 1897, and 678, or 47-95, were successful. The number examined was 119 less than in 1896, and the percentage of rejections shows an encouraging diminution. The statistics for the qualifying examination exhibit an unsatisfactory increase in the percentage of failures. The number of candidates was 1,441, but no fewer than 981, or over 68 per cent., failed. In the case of the Major examination fewer entries have to be recorded, 106 candidates having presented themselves, as against 130 for the preceding year. The proportion of passes has, however, shown a considerable improvement.

Reference was made in the last report to the proposed changes in the "First" examination. The alterations in the by-laws of the Society to effect this object were finally approved by the Privy Council on November 11, 1897. The new regulations will come into force in August, 1900, and it is confidently hoped that they will tend to materially advance the interests of pharmacy. In his last report on the examinations in London, Dr. Stevenson, the Government visitor, expresses to the Lords of the Privy Council the opinion that the necessity for the chemist and druggist "receiving something more than the knowledge attainable in a chemist's shop is year by year becoming better recognised," and he further endorses the policy which the Council has followed in the matter of preliminary education by saying that the change effected by the by-laws "ought to secure a better educated class of students, and appears to be a change entirely for the good of the calling of chemist and druggist."

During the year the Government visitor, Dr. Balfour Marshall, made his first report to the Privy Council on the examinations in Edinburgh. After deploring the evidence of "cram" in candidates, and want of sufficient training in the subjects so closely allied to the pharmacist's every-day work, Dr. Marshall expresses an opinion that the remedy lies in the establishment of a regular curriculum.

BENEVOLENT FUND.

At the Decennial Festival in May a total sum of 2,260*l.* was subscribed, which is by far the largest amount realised at any festival since the establishment of the fund. Of this amount 2,084*l.* has been added to the invested capital, and the remaining 176*l.* has been transferred to the current account. The present charge on the fund in respect of annuities now amounts to 2,055*l.*, and, thanks to the liberality of subscribers, the Council has been able to distribute in relief during 1897 the sum of 3,043*l.*—the largest expenditure in any one year.

EVENING MEETINGS.

Papers of much pharmaceutical interest have been contributed at the evening meetings, which have been well attended. In London they included "Pharmacy at Some of the American Universities," by Professor Reynolds Green; "Suppositories," by Mr. Edmund White and Mr. J. O. Brathwaite (former Bell scholars); "Notes on Official Extracts," by Messrs. Farr and Wright; and "Pharmacy of Cantharides," by Professor Greenish and Mr. Harold Wilson. Mr. Leo Atkinson also gave a lecture on "Bacteriology for Pharmacists," which was much appreciated. The introductory address in Edinburgh was given by Professor James Walker, D.Sc., and valuable papers were read at subsequent meetings by Dr. Gordon Sharpe, Dr. Dewar and Mr. Jack, Messrs. Storrar, Dott, Boa, Lunan, and others.

HANBURY MEDAL.

The ninth award of the Hanbury Gold Medal took place in May, when the President, as one of the adjudicators under the Memorial Trust, announced that the choice of the Committee of adjudicators had fallen on Dr. J. E. De Vrij. The medal was presented at the inaugural meeting of the Society's School in October; a representative of the Netherlands Government attending officially to receive it in the absence of Dr. De Vrij.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

At the last meeting of the Council, Dr. D. J. Leech, Professor of Materia Medica and Therapeutics in the Victoria University; Professor W. Ramsay, of University College, London; and Professor Ira Remsen, the Professor of Chemistry at the Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, were elected Honorary Members of the Society.

LEGAL.

The number of cases of alleged infringement of the provisions of the Pharmacy Acts reported to the Registrar during the year was 309. Each case was carefully investigated, and those in which satisfactory evidence of an infringement of the law could be obtained were placed in the hands of the solicitors to the Society, that proceedings might be taken. As usual, a large proportion of the offenders paid the penalties claimed without going into court.

The only case to which special attention need be directed is that heard before the County Court Judge at Reading, where a sale of weed-killer containing arsenic sufficient to poison 2,000 persons was virtually admitted. The defence relied upon was that the weed-killer had originally been procured for the private use of the defendant, that it was never intended for sale, that defendant did not sell by his own hand, and that he was not liable for the act of a servant who had sold the tin without authority. During the course of the evidence it transpired that the defendant had other branches, and that he had a partner who was in charge of the Reading business. The case lasted five hours, and upon reviewing the evidence the Judge held that the defendant did not intend to sell the tin in question. He also held that the word "sell" meant the physical act of sale, and on the question of partnership he was of opinion, having regard to the decision of the House of Lords in the London and Provincial Supply Association case, that partnership was on the same lines as a corporation. He therefore reluctantly decided against the Society, but willingly granted leave to appeal.

The issues involved being considered of great importance, especially with regard to the partnership question, an appeal was made to the Court of Queen's Bench. This came on for

hearing in December last, before Mr. Justice Hawkins and Mr. Justice Channell, who concurred with the views put forward on behalf of the Society, that a master, whether he was a member of a partnership or not, is liable under the Pharmacy Act for offences committed by his servant, if there is reasonable ground for supposing that such servant was acting under the ostensible or implied authority of either of his masters. Seeing, however, that the County Court Judge had found, as a fact, that the weed-killer had been sold by the assistant without any authority, and that the defendant did not intend it for sale, they dismissed the appeal with costs, but expressed the opinion that the Society had succeeded in all points of public interest.

PARLIAMENTARY.

For many years successive Councils have given evidence of a desire to remove certain anomalies of the Pharmacy Act, 1868, which Act has shut out from direct representation on the Council all who are registered by virtue of having passed the Minor or the Modified examination. The Council having reason to believe that a large measure of support would be given to a proposal for amending the law in this direction, has prepared a Bill with this for its chief object. The draft Bill has been generally approved by registered persons—in fact, the only opposition from within was due to misconception, and the Council is glad to be able to record that, after an amicable exchange of opinions resulting in a clearer comprehension of the aim of the proposed amendments, the opposition has been loyally abandoned. The Bill was introduced into Parliament on February 24 by the Hon. W. F. D. Smith, supported by Mr. Brodie Hoare, Dr. Farquharson, Mr. Boulnois, Mr. Thomas Shaw, Mr. Brookfield, Mr. Kearley, and Mr. Schwann, and it passed the second stage on March 7. Since that time Mr. A. Cross, M.P. for one of the divisions of Glasgow, has given notice to amend the Bill by the insertion of words which are intended to effect a repeal of the Pharmacy Act, 1868, so far as insecticides and other poisonous pest-destroyers used in agriculture are concerned. The effect of the notice has been to prevent the further progress of the Bill, but the Council is hopeful of overcoming the difficulty before the end of the Session.

The influence which every local secretary is capable of exerting has been admirably exemplified in the case of the Pharmacy Acts Amendment Bill. The Council recognises and appreciates this loyalty and devotion to the interests of the Society.

NORTH BRITISH BRANCH.

The report of the Executive of the North British Branch was presented to the Council at its May meeting. The Council has cause for congratulation in the zealous and efficient service rendered by its officers north of the Tweed.

OBITUARY.

The deaths during the year include Dr. Julius von Sachs, Sir Richard Quain, Bart., F.R.S., and Professor G. Dragendorff, honorary members of the Society; Professor P. C. Plugge, corresponding member; T. Glaisyer, founder and member of the first Council; R. W. Giles and F. M. Rimmington, former members of Council; W. Bower and J. B. Mackey, former auditors; A. H. Squire, Pope Roach, C. W. Lea, and the following local officers of the Society:—W. P. Hoare (Cromer), W. Donald (Perth), W. A. Waters (Rye), C. Wheeler (Haggerston), F. R. Bell (Swaffham), Henry Bates (Oldham), and P. H. Davies (March).

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR 1897.

GENERAL FUND.

RECEIPTS.

	£	s.	d.
Balance, January 1, 1897:—			
London and Westminster Bank ...	1,243	8	10
In hands of Chairman of Executive (Scotland) ...	72	4	8
In Treasurer's hands ...	3	11	6
[Total £1,319 5s.]			
Interest on Investments:—			
Ground Rents ...	149	16	8
Rent of 15 Bloomsbury Square ...	187	10	8
[Total £337 7s. 4d.]			

	£	s.	d.
Subscriptions:—			
1,296 Members, Pharmaceutical Chemists ...	1,360	16	0
549 " Chemists and Druggists ...	576	9	0
1,687 Associates in Business ...	1,771	7	0
936 Associates not in Business ...	491	18	6
872 Students ...	457	16	0
18 Life Subscriptions ...	189	0	0
Fees paid upon restoration to the Society ...	5	18	0

[Total £4,853 4s. 6d.]

Examination Fees:—

1,557 First Examination ...	2,814	11	0
1,550 Minor ...	6,331	10	0
97 Major ...	267	17	0
Fees for Restoration to the Register ...	19	19	0

[Total £9,433 17s.]

School of Pharmacy—Students' Fees...	1,398	12	0
London and Westminster Bank—An Advance, November, 1897 ...	1,500	0	0
Total ...	£18,842	5	10

EXPENDITURE.

	£	s.	d.
Annuities:—Mr. Elias Brenridge and Mr. Joseph Ince ...	500	0	0
Carriage of Books and Parcels ...	17	9	8
Certificates of Death ...	22	8	6
Evening and other Meetings ...	43	11	5
Examinations: Minor and Major:—			
Fees to Examiners and Travelling Expenses—			
England and Wales ...	1,458	16	6
Scotland ...	894	11	0
Refreshments—England and Wales ...	58	3	6
Scotland ...	47	15	4
Apparatus, Drugs, Chemicals, Printing, and sundry charges—England and Wales ...	370	6	6
Scotland ...	65	1	7

[Total £2,894 14s. 5d.]

First Examination:—

Fees to Superintendents, Hire of Rooms, and other charges ...	329	6	11
Fees to the College of Preceptors ...	183	19	0

[Total "First" £513 5s. 11d.; all £3,408 0s. 4d.]

Gas, Water, Coal, Cleaning Materials, &c. ...	319	4	4
House Servants—Wages ...	286	4	3
Journal:—Balance of account ...	1,978	14	6

School of Pharmacy:—

Stipends of Professors and Share of Fees ...	1,437	9	10
Lecturer, Assistant Lecturer and Demonstrators, and Wages of Porters ...	640	12	0
Subscription to Royal Botanic Gardens ...	21	0	0
Apparatus, Chemicals, Specimens for Lecture Classes, Prize Medals, Certificates, and printing and posting prospectuses ...	477	2	1

[Total £2,576 3s. 11d.]

Law Charges:—Balance of Account ...	557	6	7
Library:—Librarian's Salary ...	275	0	0
Purchase and Binding of Books ...	91	2	3

[Total £366 2s. 3d.]

Museum:—

Curator's Salary ...	400	0	0
Assistant's Wages ...	58	10	0
Curator attending Museums' Association Meeting ...	10	10	0
Herbarium Catalogue ...	54	6	0
Specimens, Bottles, and Sundries ...	42	7	7

[Total £565 13s. 7d.]

Expenses in Scotland:—

Assistant Secretary—Salary ...	250	0	0
Taxes and Insurance ...	58	17	9
Members of Executive—Travelling Expenses, &c. ...	31	7	0
Fuel, Light, Water, Cleaning, Service, and Miscellaneous Expenses ...	402	16	4

[Total £743 1s. 1d.]

Postage:—General ...	208	10	7
Journal ...	759	15	3

[Total £968 5s. 10d.]

Pharmacopœia Committee of the Society (paid on account of) ...	61	4	5
Provincial Education (Balance of Grant to Liverpool Pharmaceutical Students' Society) ...	2	0	0
Register—Balance of Account ...	21	2	7
Rent, Taxes, and Insurance (7 Years' Premium) ...	1,012	12	0
Repairs and Alterations ...	569	13	
Stationery, Engraving, Printing and Office Expenses ...	213	17	
Calendar:—Balance of Account ...	78	11	
Salaries:—Secretary and Registrar, and Clerks ...	1,599	13	

1975
759

	£	s.	d.
Sundries	14	12	5
Travelling Expenses—Council and Committees ...	462	14	4
Refreshments for Council	46	9	8
Interest on Advance from Bankers	32	16	6
London and Westminster Bank—Amount repaid March, 1897	1,500	0	0
Balance December 31, 1897:—			
London and Westminster Bank	726	3	4
In hands of Chairman of Executive (Scotland)...	82	18	6
In Treasurer's Hands	65	10	3
[Total £874 12s. 1d.]			
	£18,842	5	10

BENEVOLENT FUND.

Starting the year with a balance of 392*l.* 4*s.* 10*d.*, this was increased by 1,097*l.* 4*s.* 2*d.* from investments and 1,916*l.* 15*s.* 4*d.* from donations. Of the total sum of 3,406*l.* 4*s.* 4*d.* all but 272*l.* 13*s.* 1*d.* was spent—viz., 2,566*l.* 5*s.* in annuities, 473*l.* in casual grants, and 94*l.* 6*s.* 3*d.* in surveyors' fees, printing, &c.

THE DONATION ACCOUNT

began the year with a balance of 345*l.* 13*s.* 5*d.*. There was received the sum of 4,468*l.* 11*s.* in donations and legacies; 4,535*l.* 1*s.* was spent in the purchase of consols, leaving a balance on December 31, 1897, of 279*l.* 3*s.* 5*d.*. The Orphan Fund had a balance of 115*l.* 14*s.* 9*d.* on January 1, 1897, and received in subscriptions, donations, and interest 73*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.*; 30*l.* was expended on behalf of an orphan, leaving 158*l.* 15*s.* 3*d.* to the credit of the fund at the end of the year.

GENERAL INVESTMENTS.

The auditors report shows that on December 31, 1897, the Society possessed ground rents and house property which cost 30,727*l.* 15*s.* 2*d.*. The Benevolent Fund investments amounted to 32,747*l.* 2*s.* 5*d.*. The Orphan Fund investment, in consols, 355*l.*. In addition to the above securities costing 4,738*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* were standing to the credit of the Society for the Pereira, Bell, Hanbury, and Redwood Memorial Funds, the Hills' Prize Fund, the Manchester Pharmaceutical Association Scholarship Fund, and the Burroughs Scholarship. The auditors signing the report are Messrs. F. Harwood Lescher, Charles Umney, and F. Yates.

NORTH BRITISH BRANCH EXECUTIVE.

A MEETING was held at 36 York Place, Edinburgh on Friday, April 29, Mr. W. L. Currie (Vice-Chairman) presiding, in the absence of Mr. J. L. Ewing, who was on the Continent for his health. The Executive met for the first time in the new board-room of the Branch.

Mr. J. R. HILL, Assistant-Secretary, read the report of the General Purposes Committee, from which it appeared that estimates had been accepted and the work carried out in connection with the rearrangement of the museum, library and reading-room, and board-room, and that the work was now almost completed satisfactorily. This included an electric-light installation in the examination-hall, museum, board-room, and office, and fitting up a telephone between the office and the examination-hall. In the course of fitting up the electric light in the examination-hall it was discovered that there were serious indications of damp between the west wall of the house and the neighbouring property, which was traced to the existence of a spring. Stringent measures were at once adopted—it was believed with entire success—to check the evil. Altogether over 200*l.* had been expended. The committee reported that a proposal by Mr. J. Anderson Russell, asking the Executive to consider the constitution and objects of the Branch, and the function of the Executive, with a view of increasing their usefulness, and to consider the question of pharmacy-law administration in Scotland, had been remitted to the Executive, and that the Chairman had ruled the proposal out of order, as it dealt with matters outside the scope of the functions of the Executive. The committee had also considered a proposal remitted to them as to framing standing orders. The Chairman had, at the request of the committee, consulted the President, when in London, and it was thought best to adhere to the compromise which was

unanimously agreed to on both sides when the Executive was instituted in 1886. The committee were of opinion, in reference to the remittant nomination of local secretaries, that it would be an advantage to appoint local secretaries for a period of, say, five years instead of annually as at present. It might also be advantageous if the committee would select and appoint local secretaries directly without the formality of a local nomination. That, of course, would leave it open to local associations or other parties to make a recommendation to the Council if they desired to do so. The committee regretted that pharmacists in so many districts manifested so much apathy regarding this matter.

The various matters referred to in the report were discussed in committee, after which, on the motion of Mr. MCADAM (Glasgow), seconded by Mr. STRACHAN, it was adopted.

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COUNCIL.

The Executive again went into committee, and the ASSISTANT SECRETARY read the draft annual report to the Council, which was agreed upon.

THE EXECUTIVE ELECTION MEETING.

The election of Executive was fixed for Friday, June 17, and the Chairman and Vice-Chairman were appointed to act as scrutineers of the voting-papers, with power to add to their number.

It was agreed that a meeting of the Executive should be held immediately before the election.

Mr. C. F. HENRY, who had given notice of a motion, stated that in view of the present position of pharmaceutical politics he thought it advisable to postpone consideration of his motion in the meantime, and he begged leave to withdraw it, which was granted.

Trade-Marks Applied for.

Anyone who objects to the registration of a trade-mark must address the Comptroller-General, Patent Office, Chancery Lane, W.C., within a month of the date of publication.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," April 27, 1898.)

Figure of horseman, and wording, "Picador brand for caustic soda."

By Johnson, Clapham, & Morris (Limited), Lever Street, Manchester, merchants. 211,840.

"SETOULET"; for a medicine for human use. By M. Trevelli, Dudley Place, Paddington Green, W., musician. 209,665.

Device (the essential particular) of tooth, and wording, "Electricity striking a tooth"; for a medicinal powder for internal human use. By Bewell & Co., 19 Pitfield Street, N., surgeon. 209,828.

"OZO"; for a remedy for nerve pains for human use. By Walker & Harris, 12 Sun Street, Canterbury, chemists. 211,160.

"XEMEL"; for chemical substance prepared for use in medicine and pharmacy, but not including medicated soups or the like. By M. Myers & Son, Charlotte Street, Birmingham, steel-pen manufacturers. 211,996.

Device (the essential particular) of two heads, and initials, A.D.K.; for chemical substances prepared for use in medicine and pharmacy, but not including ointments or the like. By A. D. Katz, 28 Navigation Street, Birmingham, traveller. 212,112.

"LAROLA"; for chemical substances prepared for use in medicine and pharmacy. By M. Beetham & Son, Cheltenham, chemists. 212,346.

"MERTAL"; for photographic apparatus in Class 8. By Talbot & Eamer, Blackburn, scientific-instrument makers. 212,660.

Label, with picture in centre, and wording, "Dunhill's Pontefract cakes"; for licorice cakes, to be used as food. By J. F. Smith & Co., Stockton-on-Tees, manufacturing-confectioners.

Label, with device and word "Geisha" (the essential particulars); for a voice-lozenge or cachou (not medicated). By Meggeson & Co., Miles Lane, E.C., druggists. 211,629.

WHOM DOES THE CAP FIT?—We may shortly expect the prospectus of another big patent-medicine company with profits averaging over 70,000*l.* a year, says a financial paper called the *Road*.

Legal Reports.

ANISOLINE-DYE PATENTS.

IN the Court of Appeal on Monday, before Lord Justices A. L. Smith, Chitty, and Vaughan Williams, the hearing was commenced of an appeal by the plaintiffs in the case of the *Badische Anilin und Soda Fabrik v. Ludwigshafen v. La Société Chimique des Usines du Rhône*, anciennement Gilliard P. Monnet et Cartier, of Lyons, and J. D. Wilson, of Bradford. Mr. Cripps, Q.C., M.P., Mr. R. Wallis, Q.C., Mr. W. L. Lawson, and Mr. J. G. Graham were counsel for the appellants, and Mr. Moulton, Q.C., Mr. Bousfield, Q.C., and Mr. A. Colefax for the respondents.

The hearing of the case occupied fourteen days in the Court below, and Mr. Justice Wills delivered judgment on August 7 last. Plaintiffs sought an injunction restraining the defendant firm from importing into England and manufacturing, selling, or supplying, or using in England certain dyes sold under the name of anisoline and tri-anisoline, manufactured according to specifications filed in pursuance of plaintiffs' letters patent in 1887 and 1892. On the earlier patent plaintiffs admitted at the trial that there must be judgment entered for defendants, and the case went on in respect to the patent of 1892.

Mr. Cripps, in opening the case, said the appeal was in limited form, and concerned only one particular point of the case, the reason being that Mr. Justice Wills on every other point had decided in plaintiffs' favour. An earlier action by Monnet had been tried before that, which was the subject of this appeal, and the same question, in substance, was discussed in both actions, but the particular point on which the defendants succeeded in this second action was not raised in their objections; it was not until the eleventh or twelfth day of the trial that it was brought forward. Then defendants' counsel elected to amend, objecting that the description of the process in example 2 of plaintiffs' specification was not sufficient, and upon that point the defendants succeeded. The subject-matter of the patent was rhodamine dyes. An undoubted discovery in the Badische patent, now under consideration, was the discovery of what was called dialkyl-rhodamine-ester, the ester being a sort of an acid produced by combination. The discovery made by Dr. Bernthsen, the directing-chemist at the immense Badische factory, was that you could treat a rhodamine in the same way as you could acid in order to produce an ester—that was to say, you could produce a rhodamine ester by a combination of rhodamine and alkyl. That was a very great—Mr. Justice Wills called it a startling—discovery, and, commercially, the result of that discovery was that a rhodamine-ester was a far better dye, as regards colour and fastness, than any other dye previously produced, its value to the Badische Company under their patent being about 6,000*l.* a ton.

Mr. Moulton: It must not be taken that we accept all this.

Mr. Cripps said that Dr. Bernthsen was found by Mr. Justice Wills to have made this discovery. But in their specification of the patent plaintiffs gave examples of three processes by which this new ester could be produced. As regarded example 1 no question was raised. Mr. Justice Wills found in plaintiffs' favour on example 3; but on example 2, the subject of this appeal, the learned Judge found that there was insufficient description, which, of course, invalidated the whole patent. As regards example 2, the Badische Company described all that was known at the time. The specification mentioned an autoclave. An autoclave was a sort of digester, an airtight vessel of iron. An iron autoclave was commonly used for commercial purposes. It was used by the Badische Company, and it was used by Dr. Bernthsen in carrying out example 2 without any question of any other form. Mr. Moulton, for defendants, said at the trial that the process of example 2 would not work satisfactorily if used in an enamelled autoclave. Mr. Justice Wills held that there were two forms of autoclave—an iron autoclave, in which example 2 could be worked satisfactorily, and an enamelled autoclave, in which it would not work as satisfactorily—and that he held to be insufficient description. On that point this appeal turned.

Lord Justice Vaughan Williams: So that if you were

making your specification again you would use the word "iron" autoclave?

Mr. Cripps: Undoubtedly. What is said against us is this: That a skilled workman on this specification would be entitled to take either kind of autoclave; but if he takes an enamelled one the process will not work. Plaintiffs' contention was that an autoclave described simply as such would be taken by manufacturers and workmen to be a common iron autoclave, and that if any unusual form, such as an enamelled or silvered autoclave, were desired, it would be specifically described. By the process of example 1, substantially about 90 or 95 per cent. of rhodamine was converted into ester; by example 2, in an iron autoclave, there was nearly 100 per cent. conversion into ester, or with an enamelled autoclave on Dr. Bernthsen's estimate about 40 per cent. By example 3, there was much contest whether ester would be produced, but Mr. Justice Wills found in plaintiffs' favour. The effect of the use of an iron autoclave was that the free hydrochloric acid was taken up by the iron, the remaining processes went on without interference, and so success was attained. Dr. Bernthsen did not himself know this effect until the last stages of the trial, when having made the discovery he candidly avowed it, so there was no question of the inventor concealing any part of his knowledge.

Lord Justice Smith: Defendants say a workman would have to find out what sort of autoclave would be successful.

Mr. Cripps said his contention was that any workman told to take an autoclave would take an iron autoclave, unless specially directed to take another kind.

Mr. Moulton said his case was that any workman desiring a refined product, such as this, would take an enamelled autoclave, because it was free from the action of the iron upon the chemicals.

On the resumption of the hearing on Tuesday,

Mr. Cripps read at great length the evidence, which he said showed that for twenty-six days during the trials the great chemists called on both sides had no suspicion that free hydrochloric acid was liberated in this process and was seized by the iron of the autoclave.

Mr. Bousfield, in support of defendants' case, said there were three reagents acting in this process—iron, rhodamine-hydrochloric acid, and alcohol. What was essential was that there should be no free hydrochloric acid present, and to secure this iron must be present, either in the form of nails or chips, or in the autoclave, as in this instance. These three ingredients being necessary it would, he submitted, be a startling innovation in patent-law to say that a specification which gave only two of the ingredients was sufficient.

Mr. Moulton, taking up the argument, said the plaintiffs' assertion that it was Dr. Bernthsen who first made a rhodamine-ester was contrary to the fact. The patent held by defendants was a patent by Monnet, who first made a new set of dyes from rhodamines by a special process. He sold his invention for Germany to Dr. Bernthsen's company. But he had made a blunder in what he thought to be their chemical structure and name. He thought these dyes probably came under a new class, and called them ethers. What Dr. Bernthsen did was to find that they were not ethers, but esters, and having seen his predecessor's mistake, and found what their structure was, he invented a new acid-process. At the trial, where Monnet's specification was cited as anticipation, it was proved that it gave a result of 70 per cent. of esters, so that plaintiffs could not take up the position that this was a body they were first to make. So they fell back on the device that this was not a patent for a body impure, but for a body without any admixture of foreign substance; for a process by which they got an absolutely pure body. "An autoclave" did not mean that you put in iron. An autoclave was merely a closed vessel capable of withstanding the pressure of heated vapours. All the witnesses at the trial agreed that the autoclave in the specification would include an enamelled autoclave, because all these expert witnesses said that in chemistry a vessel was always taken which the chemist believed would not be attacked by his substances. It had never before been suggested that the inside of the vessel used should be part of the reaction, one of the necessary elements in the process. It was a rule in chemistry that you were safe if the vessel could not be attacked, but here they were asked that chemists should assume that rule for this purpose to be inverted. An autoclave might be copper—in fact, the experi-

ments in this case were mostly carried out in closed glass tubes, and nobody then suggested that they were not carrying out the specification. A man might fairly try this process with an enamelled autoclave and fail, and there was nothing in this specification to put him on the right track. That was of prime importance in a specification, and the failure made this specification invalid.

After Mr. Cripps had replied,

Lord Justice Smith said: I think we will give you notice if we want to hear either side any further, and if we do not we will give judgment in a few days.

THE MEDICAL ACT.

AT Worship Street, on April 29, Mr. Leopold Leibster appeared to answer two summonses under the Medical Acts, charging him (1) with having wilfully and falsely taken and used the name and title of a doctor of medicine, he not being a registered medical practitioner; and (2) for having used the title of medical officer to a certain society called the National Medical Aid Society. Mr. Fleming, barrister, appeared on behalf of the Medical Defence Union, and Mr. Haldinstein, barrister, defended.

The evidence in the first case showed that a solicitor's clerk named Tyrrell went to the defendant's surgery and got treated for a cold, and similarly a young woman, also sent by the prosecution, consulted the defendant, and received advice and medicine. In the first instance defendant was asked if he would give a certificate, but said he could not, as he was not registered in this country. His card and brass plate bore the words "Dr. L. Leibster, M.D., Vienna." A parchment document in German was produced to show that defendant was duly registered in Vienna. It was further said that he was studying at the London Hospital, and taking all due steps to be registered here.

Evidence on the second summons showed that an inquest had been held on a child which defendant had attended as medical officer to a society, for which the parents paid, but the evidence broke down, and the prosecution withdrew that case.

In giving judgment, the Magistrate said he was not satisfied that defendant had held himself out as a medical practitioner under the Act, and it seemed that even to the person sent to trap him the defendant had admitted he was not registered in this country. He thought no man could have done more, and he dismissed the summons, granting the defence ten guineas costs. The prosecution intimated an appeal to High Court.

THE MATÉ TEA COMPANY.

IN the Court of Appeal on Tuesday, before the Master of the Rolls and Lords Justices Rigby and Collins, Major Cogan appealed from an order of Mr. Justice Barnes dismissing an action which he had brought against Arthur and Hamilton Cumberland in respect of the purchase of the business of the Maté Tea Company. The action was to have an agreement of August 14 for the purchase of the business and a subsequent mortgage set aside and cancelled, and for the repayment of a sum of 1,000*l.* which had been paid to the defendants. The business—that of the manufacture and sale of Maté tea, which was stated to have stimulating properties similar to coca and kola—was advertised for sale by the defendants, and the plaintiff entered into negotiations for its purchase. The plaintiff, it was admitted, had had no business experience, but he contended that the defendants had misrepresented the extent and profits of the business. His Lordship, in the court below, came to the conclusion that no substantial misrepresentations had been made, but that the falling-off in the volume of business was due to the inexperience and want of care and forethought of the plaintiff. Mr. Terrell, Q.C., on behalf of the appellant, argued that, everything being taken into account, there was such a misrepresentation on the part of the defendants as would entitle the plaintiff to have the purchase annulled. After hearing counsel on the other side, their Lordships reserved judgment.

TAXING THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.

A DIVISIONAL COURT, consisting of Justices Wright and Channell, gave judgment on April 29, in the case of an

application by the Royal College of Surgeons for total exemption, under the Customs and Inland Revenue Act of 1888, in respect of certain duty payable on their corporate estates, the contention being that the College existed for the benefit of the public at large, and for the promotion of the art and science of surgery.

At the close of the arguments, Mr. Justice Channell remarked, in concurring with Mr. Justice Wright, that the society had since its charter gradually become a vehicle for benefiting individuals as well as the public at large, and in its lately acquired functions had lost in some degree its right to total exemption. The benefit to the individual was the admission of members and others for the purpose of practising the science of surgery for their own emolument. The society, in fact, had a double object, and it could not be said that all its objects were legally appropriated for the purposes of science. Judgment was given against the applicants, but no order was made as to costs.

BAKING-POWDER IN COURT.

IN the Chancery Division, on April 26, Mr. Justice Romer had before him a motion for judgment the action brought by the Royal Baking-powder Company of New York, who asked for an injunction to restrain Messrs. Wright, Crossley & Co., of Liverpool, from maliciously representing that the plaintiffs were not entitled to sell their "Royal" baking-powder in the United Kingdom, and from maliciously threatening the customers of the plaintiffs with legal proceedings in respect of their sales of the plaintiffs' baking-powder. Damages and costs were also asked for. The case for the plaintiffs was that in 1887 and 1888 they registered two trade-marks. The first was applied for as an old mark. In February, 1897, Messrs. Wright, Crossley & Co. moved the High Court to expunge the mark from the register of trade-marks on various grounds, and, on investigation, the plaintiffs found they could not prove having used the first mark before 1875, and the second mark they had never used. Accordingly they did not oppose the application, and Mr. Justice Romer expunged the marks from the register. On April 14, 1897, the defendants' solicitors wrote to the plaintiffs in New York, and reported to them the order which Mr. Justice Romer had made, and asked for an undertaking to stop all imports of the powder. On April 20 the defendants sent out a copy of the order, headed "Royal Baking-powder," and this, the plaintiffs contended, would lead the trade to think they had no right to use the word "Royal." The defendants contended that the circular did not deceive the trade as alleged.

Mr. Warmington, Q.C., Mr. Levett, Q.C., and Mr. Dickenson appeared for the plaintiffs; Mr. R. Neville, Q.C., and Mr. Sebastian represented the defendants.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

SPIRIT OF NITROUS ETHER.

HENRY FROST ROGERS, chemist and druggist, of Rye Lane, Peckham, was summoned at the Lambeth Police Court on April 28, at the instance of the Camberwell Vestry, for selling spirit of nitrous ether, which the public analyst certified was only 70.08 per cent. of the strength prescribed in the British Pharmacopœia. The case had been previously before the Court, when the defendant pointed out that the strength of the spirit evaporated every time the bottle containing it was opened, and Mr. Sheil adjourned the hearing for the presence of Dr. Frank Teed, the public analyst. Answering some questions by his Worship, Dr. Teed said he could make various suggestions as to the deficiency in the strength of the article. One was that it was never of the proper strength, and the other that it might have been kept too long and have become decomposed. It was true that the spirit evaporated, but the strength prescribed by the Pharmacopœia allowed a margin for that. Evaporation might be checked by storing the spirit in small bottles, which would be emptied after they had been opened two or three times. The defendant remarked that that would be all very well for laboratory or experimental purposes, but it would be impracticable in business. The sample was served from a bottle holding about 2 pints. In the result Mr. Shiel ordered the defendant to pay a fine of 20*s.* and costs.

DIVIDING PURCHASES.

AT Guildford County Police Court, on April 30, Mr. Mitchell, a grocer, of Woking, was charged by the inspector for the Surrey County Council with selling to his prejudice certain glycerin. Mr. E. H. Gale Crowdy, solicitor, of Chertsey, appeared for the defence, and pleaded not guilty. The inspector stated that on March 28, 1898, he visited the defendant's shop, and purchased six penny bottles of glycerin; that after the purchase was completed he forthwith notified to the defendant his intention to have the same analysed by the public analyst, and offered to divide the article. This offer was accepted, whereupon he sealed up the six bottles in three packets, each containing two. Mr. Gale Crowdy raised an objection that under section 14 this was an improper division. He contended that the contents of each bottle should have been divided. Case dismissed on this objection.

GLYCERIN.

At the Rotherham (West Riding) Police Court last week Richard Willis, grocer, of Bramley, was summoned for selling some glycerin which Mr. Allen, the public analyst, certified consisted of 98 parts of glycerin and 2 parts glucose syrup. The presence of glucose in the sample could not have been due to accident. In his opinion it must have been an intentional adulteration, with the object of increasing the weight of the article and giving it a factitious strength. The defendant's wife produced a bottle almost full of glycerin, stating that the inspector got the only lot sold out of the bottle, and it had been purchased from Mr. Humphrey Davy, chemist, Rotherham. She sold it just as it was purchased, and she thought it was right. Fined 10s. and 19s. costs.

CONDENSED MILK.

THE case of Petchley v. Taylor was an appeal to a Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Justices Wills and Kennedy) on a case stated by a metropolitan police magistrate, who convicted the appellant upon an information for selling milk which had 97 per cent. of the original fat abstracted, without making disclosure of the said alteration.

On November 13, 1897, the appellant sold to the respondent a tin containing a substance described as "Cup Brand Condensed Milk." On the tin were the words, "This tin contains skimmed milk with nothing added but the finest sugar." The substance in the tin was proved to be milk from which the cream had been separated by a machine called a separator. It was also proved that the term "skimmed milk" meant milk from which a portion of the fat had been removed by the process of skimming the surface of the milk, and that the greatest amount of fat that could be thus removed was 63 per cent.

For the appellant it was contended that the alteration was sufficiently disclosed by the term "skimmed milk," but the Court (on April 29) dismissed the appeal.

COUNTY COURT CASES.

SELLING A DISPENSING-SCREEN.

AT Shoreditch County Court, on April 29, before Judge French, Q.C., Mr. Alfred Grovier, furniture-dealer, of 12 Jacobin Street, Western Street, Haggerston, sued Mr. Wood, chemist, of 8 Albion Parade, Stoke Newington, for 2l. 6s., commission on the sale of some shop-fittings. Mr. Robinson, solicitor, who appeared for the plaintiff, said Mr. Wood instructed the plaintiff to carry out some alterations in the shop. While there one day he asked plaintiff if he would mind taking away a dispensing-screen which was in the way, and keep it on show in his shop for sale. Defendant said he would advertise it in a paper, and asked plaintiff if he would mind showing it to any callers. It was agreed that plaintiff was to have a small commission on the sale. Plaintiff took it away on these terms, and it remained in the shop on view from April to September, and was eventually sold, but plaintiff considered himself entitled to the amount claimed for storage. The plaintiff gave evidence of these circumstances. For the defence it was

denied that any commission was agreed upon. Grovier had been doing a good deal of work for the defendant, and when he said he thought he could get 5l. 10s. for the screen, it was agreed to let him try. He took the screen away, but defendant paid for the cartage. Defendant supposed that out of the amount realised for the screen the plaintiff would pay himself back. Subsequently plaintiff came to him and said he could get 2l. for it, and although he thought it very low, he agreed to take that on consideration that the plaintiff deducted nothing for himself. After Mr. Cocks, who appeared for the defendant, had cross-examined the plaintiff, his Honour said it was hardly likely a man would agree to mind a screen for an indefinite period, and try and sell it as well, if he was to have nothing in return. There would be judgment for the plaintiff for 1l. 5s. and costs.

RISKS IN THE SYPHON-TRADE.

AT Shoreditch County Court, on April 29, Alfred Thomas Chapman (18) sought to recover damages, under the Employers' Liability Act, for the loss of a finger from Messrs. Barnett & Foster, chemists' engineers, of Eagle Wharf Road. Mr. Craig appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Ellis Hill was counsel for the defendants.

Mr. Craig said the lad had been engaged making the tubes and metal tops of syphons—a rather dangerous and delicate occupation. The firm had some eighty lathes for the manufacture of these tubes and accessories, but in the room the plaintiff had been working in there were only six. One of these had an ill-repute in the shop, and a number of the operatives had refused to work it. The major portion of the accidents which had occurred in the past year were attributable to this one lathe. On February 21, the plaintiff had been working on one of the lathes in the room, but in the afternoon, quite late, he was asked to go on to this particular lathe. Unfortunately he agreed, with the result that he came away from the machine minus a finger. What plaintiff had to do was to make the tube on the lathe and then "strike off," as it was called, the "fast pulley" on to the "loose pulley," with the result that the machine would stop. When it had stopped, and not before it had stopped, he was supposed to pick up a pair of pliers and then ease the tube off the lathe by their aid. Mr. Craig admitted that on some occasions, if they got hold of an obstinate tube, the men sometimes made a sort of leverage of the band, but this was not dangerous if the machine was in proper order, as the band would not move. When the plaintiff had taken the tube off he was supposed to "strike on" the band again, which set the machine in motion. In plaintiff's case he was working piece-work, which might have caused him to use unnecessary haste, but that even was not dangerous if the machine was not defective. He had finished three of the tubes and struck off the band to stop the machine to take off the fourth. While doing this the band ran back, with the consequence that plaintiff had his finger cut to the bone, and it had to be amputated.

The plaintiff gave evidence, and said there had been three accidents on this lathe in the last year, and only one on all the other eighty-one.

Several other witnesses also testified to the dangerous nature of the machine and to the antipathy in the works to using it. It had a reputation for running off and on, and was therefore feared.

For the defence the foreman of the room was called, and said the lathes were under his charge. He considered that a lathe would require seeing after once every three months, and this was roughly the time that elapsed between his thorough inspections. If anything went wrong with a machine, he had the matter put right at once.

His Honour: Was the bad reputation the lathe had the only reason why the boys did not like working on it?—It might have been because it was in the dark.

Was it very much in the dark, then?—Not very much, but it was in a dark corner.

And would that have anything to do with the working of it?—Well, no; I should think not.

The manager of the works was then called, and said he could not quite agree with the foreman's evidence. He thought a three-month interval between the inspections was too much. They should be made intermittently, and cer-

taily not at fixed periods. He did not blame the foreman for the way he did his work, but his examinations of the lathes would have been more frequent than the foreman's.

His Honour: Then you think that if irregular examinations were made of these lathes such a defect as a loose nut would be discovered easier than by making it at regular intervals of three months?

The Witness: Yes; I should think it would be so.

In addressing the jury, his Honour said the question for them to determine was whether the nut was loose on the machine, causing it to run back, and thereby being a source of danger to the plaintiff. If they found that, they would be entitled to give the plaintiff such damages as they thought he had sustained permanently by the loss of the second finger on the left hand. He could recover three years' wages in all under the Act.

After a lengthy consultation in private, the jury found for the plaintiff 45*l.* damages and costs.

EVIDENCE OF MEANS.

In the City of London Court on Tuesday, before Mr. Commissioner Kerr, William Holman, trading as Lynes & Son, Fleet Street, sought to enforce payment of 5*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.* for a debt due from the defendant, G. Andrews, chemist, 136 Stamford Street. The plaintiff's representative said that the defendant was doing a good trade, and could easily pay the amount owing. Mr. Commissioner Kerr: Why not take his drugs and his bottles? The plaintiff's representative explained that they were covered by a bill of sale. Mr. Commissioner Kerr: Then they are not his. What evidence of means have you? It has been decided that carrying on business is not evidence of means, because it may be carried on at a loss. The Plaintiff's Representative: Only his own statement that he is doing very well. The Judge said that was nothing, and no order was made.

SALLYCO MINERAL-WATER.—MEDICAL TESTIMONIAL.

BEFORE Mr. Justice Kekewich, in the Chancery Division, on May 5, the action of Dockrell *v.* Dougall came on for hearing. Both parties are medical men, the plaintiff being physician at St. John's Hospital for Diseases of the Skin. The defendant, it was stated, did not practise professionally, but traded as the Sallyco Mineral-water Company. Mr. Bramwell Davis, Q.C., and Mr. Brooks Little were counsel for the plaintiff, and Mr. Warrington, Q.C., Mr. Baker, and Mr. de Witt, for the defendant. The plaintiff asked for an injunction to restrain the defendant from issuing circulars which contained his name joined to an alleged expression of opinion on his part, advertising this Sallyco mineral-water. It stated what was untrue, that Dr. Dockrell and many other leading physicians prescribed Sallyco water as an habitual drink, and also that Dr. Dockrell found it of great value for gout. This water contained four recognised medicinal ingredients—one a very dangerous compound, and a medical man would not recommend its frequent drinking. This Sallyco mineral-water was brought under the notice of Dr. Dockrell in his practice by a professional friend, and subsequently the defendant called upon him at his house, told him its constituents, and they talked about it. Nothing was said or suggested about the circular being sent out, and it was not until July last that Dr. Dockrell found that it was being circulated.

Mr. Justice Kekewich: The question is whether this circular is a libel, and that is essentially a question for a jury.

Mr. Brooks Little said the circular plainly suggested that Sallyco water should be drunk in the same way as Apollinaris or any other harmless mineral-water. It was contrary to a distinct rule of the St. John's Hospital that the name of a physician there should be advertised in any way, and, besides, this improper advertisement was calculated to greatly injure Dr. Dockrell in his private practice. Defendant's attention was called to it, and he undertook not to further issue the circular, but plaintiff found not only that it was being issued, but that plaintiff's name was being used in a touting circular for the formation of a syndicate to extend the Sallyco mineral-water business.

After some legal argument, Mr. Justice Kekewich said this case raised an issue of libel which ought to be tried before a jury, and his Lordship transferred the case to the Queen's Bench Division for trial.

Bankruptcies and Failures.

Re ARTHUR LONGDON, lately at Boots' Drug-stores, Lincoln, Druggist's Assistant.

A STATEMENT of affairs has been issued in connection with this failure. The bankrupt was for eighteen months an assistant at Messrs. Boots' drug-stores. The unsecured liabilities amount to 614*l.* 1*s.*, and the debts due to preferential creditors to 28*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* The assets are estimated at 262*l.* 17*s.* 11*d.*, and there is a deficiency of 379*l.* 15*s.* 9*d.* Debtor was to have been examined at the Boston Bankruptcy Court on April 28, but was not present. The Official Receiver stated that debtor first commenced business at 14 High Street, Boston, then went as manager at Saffron Walden, and after being there for eighteen months became an assistant at Boots' drug-stores at Lincoln, where he remained eighteen months. The receiving-order was made on the petition of a creditor, the act of bankruptcy being that the debtor on or about March 7 departed from his dwelling-house with intent to defeat or delay his creditors. The examination was adjourned *sine die*.

Re DERBYSHIRE MAYALL, 35 and 37 Dickinson Street, Manchester, Chemical Merchant and Drysalter.

THIS debtor was examined at the Manchester Bankruptcy Court on May 2 by Mr. Dibb, Official Receiver. The unsecured liabilities were estimated by the bankrupt at 3,242*l.*, and the value of securities, 1,400*l.* (one creditor partly secured); surplus, 316*l.*; total to rank at 3,479*l.* The assets were estimated at 807*l.* 4*s.* 7*d.* The debtor attributed his failure to a lawsuit, ill-health, and losses on contracts. He stated that he commenced business in April, 1893, at 94 Market Street, Manchester. He was then overdrawn at the bank 201*l.*, but had a claim of about 600*l.* against his previous employers: that he commenced proceedings for the recovery thereof about 1893, the action being finally decided against him in the autumn of 1896, and that the costs of the action amounted to 710*l.* He had often been incapacitated from attending to his business by ill-health, and then his brother Robert had the full control of the business. Mr. Rhodes, barrister, appeared for the debtor. Mr. Dibb questioned the debtor as to various accounts filed with regard to his business in 1895, 1896, and 1897. He admitted, that his books were generally very imperfect, and he only found it out when he came to examine them. This accounted for certain mistakes in the accounts as first rendered. It was true that goods to the value of 2,714*l.* had been deposited for security with the Trust Company for a sum of 2,104*l.* Mr. Dibb: And those goods have been sold for less than the bank advanced upon them. Mr. Rylands, who appeared for the trustee and certain creditors, asked for an adjournment. Mr. Dibb said there had been a number of adjournments, all at the convenience of the debtor. Mr. Rhodes submitted that the debtor had come from Ireland at great expense, and it was very hard upon him. The Debtor: It has cost me 20*l.* to come here to-day, and I can't afford it. My people don't like it. If the creditors will put any point to me I will answer it. The further examination was adjourned to June 13.

Gazette.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

Barker, R. H., M.D., and Harman, A. B., under the style of Barker & Harman, Hungerford, physicians and surgeons.

Heppell, T., and Jewell, J. E., under the style of Heppell & Co., Haymarket, S.W., and under the style of Jewell & Co., St. Aubyn's Road and Church Road, Upper Norwood, S.W., chemists and druggists.

Holmes, C., Bancroft, W., and Bancroft, J. T., under the style of C. Holmes & Co., Bradford, mineral-water manufacturers.

Thorne, W., and Harrison, A. J. R., under the style of Strawson & Co., Liverpool, mineral-water manufacturers.

Deeds of Arrangement.

Lukyn, Percy Christopher (and another) 53 Topping Street, Blackpool, dental surgeon. Trustee, J. Townley Trotter, Manchester, chartered accountant. Dated April 20; filed April 27. Liabilities unsecured, 138*l.* 9*s.* 9*d.*; estimated net assets, 100*l.* Composition of 12*s.* 6*d.* in the pound payable by equal weekly instalments of 2*l.* each. The first payment to become due as and from February 12, 1898, secured by assignment by debtor's wife of the household furniture and effects.

Stoddart, Charles, 27 Lower Seymour Street, Portman Square, dentist. Dated April 23; filed April 28. Liabilities unsecured, 614*l.* 9*s.* 9*d.* Composition of 2*s.* 6*d.* in the pound, payable on or before the execution hereof. The following are scheduled as creditors:—

	£	s.	d.
Allshorne, F. S. (Exors of) London	50	0	0
Avant, F. W., & Co., London	14	0	0
Belgravia Dairy Co., London	11	0	0
Dunworth, R., London	12	0	0
Keep, A. H., London	25	0	0
Pearce, Mary, London	133	0	0
Percivall, Catherine E., Catford	277	0	0
Roberts, D. W., London	14	0	0
Russell, W., London	25	0	0
Bankers' claims	12	0	0

New Companies and Company News.

ST. WINIFRED'S TABLE-WATER COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 50,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of mineral and aerated water manufacturers, bottlers, and merchants.

SCOTTISH STANDARD MEAT BISCUIT AND CHEMICAL COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 12,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the manufacture and sale of feeding-stuffs, and the business of horse and cattle dealers, &c.

H. G. SANDERS & SON (LIMITED).—Capital 20,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire and carry on the business of collapsible tube and metal cap manufacturers, carried on as "H. G. Sanders & Son," at Notting Hill Gate, London. Registered office, Victoria Works, Victoria Gardens, Notting Hill Gate, London, W.

HOWARD & CO. (LIMITED).—Capital 5,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of chemists and druggists. The first subscribers (each with one share) are:—P. E. Silcock, 33 Disraeli Road, Putney, S.W., shop-assistant; A. Brees, 49 Myddelton Street, E.C., shop-assistant; J. C. Lavender, 42 Alington Street, Finsbury Park, N., clerk; S. Bentley, 7 Chelmsford Road, North Walthamstow, clerk; C. Joyce, 15 Shepherdess Walk, City Road, N., gentleman; J. C. Wright, 222 Brixton Road, S.W., clerk; W. E. Kenderdine, 24 Loddiges Road, N.E., clerk. Table "A" mainly applies.

MELLIN'S FOOD COMPANY FOR AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND (LIMITED).—Capital 125,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares (100,000 6*l.*-per-cent. cumulative preference). Objects: To acquire from Mellin's Food (Limited), and to continue, carry on, and extend the business of selling "Mellin's Food" and "Lacto-Glycose" in the Australian colonies, Tasmania, and New Zealand. The first directors are G. Mellin, E. C. Bliss, G. A. Maull, and J. J. Pilley. Qualification, 500*l.* Remuneration, 1,000*l.* per annum and a percentage of the profits divisible.

W. VAUGHAN (LIMITED).—Capital 500*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of chemists, druggists, drysalers, patent-medicine vendors, oil and colour merchants, and aerated and mineral water manufacturers. The first subscribers (each with one share) are:—Wm. Vaughan, chemist's manager, Mrs. A. Vaughan, and Miss M. E. Vaughan, of 48 Manchester Road, Denton, Lancs; Samuel Hilton, leather-dresser, and Mrs. M. Hilton, of 148 Ashton Road, Denton, Lancs; Geo. T. Knott, decorator, and Mrs. E. Knott, 45 Ashton Road, Denton, Lancs. Registered without articles of association. Registered office, 48 Manchester Road, Denton, Lancs.

TOOTH COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 500*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To adopt an agreement with Isabella A. Smith, and to carry on the business of extractors, stoppers and fillers of teeth, dental mechanics, chemists, druggists, and general merchants. The first subscribers (each with one share) are:—Wm. M. Graydon, 53 Windsor Avenue, Gateshead, clerk; Harry E. Stewart, 86 Elswick Road, Newcastle-on-Tyne, dental mechanic; Thomas D. Hudson, 2 Strawberry Place, Newcastle, dental mechanic; Elijah Baker, 106 Gainsborough Grove, Newcastle, clerk; Wm. H. Robinson and Wm. H. Robinson, jun., 53 Cardigan Terrace, Heaton, Newcastle, booksellers; Mrs. Isabella A. Smith, Eldon Square, Newcastle. Isabella A. Smith is the first and sole director.

JOHN L. SMITH (LIMITED).—Capital 5,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire and carry on the business of a chemist and druggist carried on by John L. Smith, at 236 Regent Road, Salford, 193 Trafford Road, Salford, 311 Chester Road, Hulme, 6 Cornbrook Street, Old Trafford, and 180 High Street, Pendleton, all in Manchester. The first subscribers are:—T. M. Sturdy, 193 Trafford Road, Salford, chemist (20 shares); Harold Follows, 39 Meadow Street, Moss Side, Manchester, chemist (1); Thomas Gresty, 175 Broad Street, Pendleton, Manchester, chemist (1); James R. Cunliffe, 558 Great Cheetham Street, Manchester, secretary (1); H. Knight, 1 West Grove, Brooklands, chemist (1); John L. Smith, 377 Chester Road, Old Trafford, chemist (1); James H. Hadfield, 102 Earl Street, Lower Broughton, Salford, chemist (1). The first directors are John L. Smith (governing-director) and Thomas M. Sturdy. Qualification, 20 shares. Remuneration, as the company may decide. Registered office, 236 Regent Road, Salford, Manchester.

DR. CHARLES ROOKE (LIMITED).—The eleventh half-yearly dividend, due May 1, on the preference shares of this company has been declared at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum.

SCHWEPPE'S (LIMITED).—The first annual meeting of shareholders was held on April 29 in the Holborn Restaurant. Lord De la Warr, the chairman of the company, presided, and moved the adoption of the report, which, he pointed out, only covered eight months of the company's trading. The results enabled them to pay all the preference dividends and 7 per cent. on the ordinary shares. In order to satisfy the complaints of certain large customers the prices on empty bottles would be reduced from 2*s.* to 1*s.* per dozen, as even with the reduced charge they would make a profit. The chairman also referred to certain alterations in syphons in order to make them effective, and said if these alterations were carried into effect it would entail a heavy loss on the company, while the alteration would not produce any profit. However, they had to make certain changes. It was not expected that the whole of the 24,000*l.* to be paid for these new syphons would be required, but the directors thought it better to carry that amount to suspense account. The gross profits for the eight months had been 51,000*l.*, and the actual net profit 31,000*l.* The business was going on satisfactorily, and every month showed a large increase in the sales. Mr. C. D. Welch-Welch, managing-director, seconded the adoption of the report, and it was carried after a brief discussion.

MELLIN'S FOOD COMPANY FOR AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND (LIMITED), with a share capital of 125,000*l.*, divided into 100,000 6 per cent. cumulative preference shares and 25,000 ordinary shares of 1*l.* each, offers to the public 75,000 preference shares at 2*s.* 6*d.* premium. The company acquires the business now carried on with the Australian and New Zealand colonies by Mellin's Food (Limited). The purchase price is fixed by the vendor company at 75,000*l.*, payable as to 25,000*l.* in ordinary shares and as to the balance in cash.

A MAN dropped his wig in the street, and a boy who was following close behind the loser picked it up and handed it to him. "Thanks, my boy," said the owner of the wig. "You are the first genuine hair-restorer I have ever seen."—*The Chemist and Druggist of Australasia.*

WHY DOES SMOKE PRESERVE hams, fish, and other alimentary products which are smoked? Because there are phenols in the smoke, say most people; but the real reason has only recently been discovered—viz., that there is an appreciable percentage of formaldehyde in it.

Trade Notes.

THE NEW B.P.—In the very complete price-list of the new pharmacopœial products which they have issued, Messrs. Evans, Sons & Co., of Liverpool, give concise particulars regarding every new preparation and most of the articles of *materia medica*.

THE MUNYON HOMŒOPATHIC HOME REMEDY COMPANY announce that on and after June 1 the retail discount on their preparations will be at the uniform rate of 25 per cent. off selling-price—that is, 9s., 18s., and 36s. per dozen respectively for the 1s., 2s., and 4s. sizes.

SPRATT'S PATENT (LIMITED), Bermondsey, have issued a revised price-current (which includes the innovation of prepayment of carriage from London on all their proprietary articles, subject to certain conditions). Goods will not in future be supplied by them from Liverpool or Bristol depôts.

MESSRS. MEISTER, LUCIUS & BRÜNING, of Hoechst-am-Main, announce that Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome & Co. and Jeyes' Sanitary Compounds Company (Limited) have ceased to be agents for their pharmaceutical products (including Dr. Knorr's antipyrin), which will in future be supplied direct through the London office of the company at 46 St. Mary Axe, E.C.

A GOOD INK-BOTTLE.—Mr. Edward Darke, 12 Pall Mall East, S.W., is the inventor of an excellent ink-bottle, the object of which is to prevent the oxidation of ink through exposure. The bottle is fitted with an indiarubber washer, through which a top shaped like a funnel screws down, and the ink passes up this funnel and flows back again when one or two turns upwards are given.

FRUIT CRYSTALS.—Messrs. Goodall, Backhouse & Co., Leeds, are offering a cheap line in fruit-crystals (lemonade), of which we have received samples. A teaspoonful of the crystals dissolved in a tumbler of water makes a pleasantly acid and nicely-flavoured drink. We consider the packets very good value, the 1*l.* packet containing sufficient of the crystals to make a quart of beverage, whilst the 3*l.* packet is enough for a gallon.

MR. THOMAS CHASE, pharmaceutical chemist, Edgbaston, Birmingham, has compiled for his medical friends a brief commentary on the British Pharmacopœia, 1898. One of the best features of this little book (which is 32mo.) is a posological synopsis, which shows in a striking manner the uniformity of dosage in galenic preparations. The booklet is priced "one shilling," and would have been better without that, we think.

FINE PERFUMES.—Mr. Charles Westphal, 195 Upper Thames Street, E.C., has sent us specimens, of the oils of jasmin and hyacinth made by his principals, Messrs. Heine & Co., Leipzig. These are either thick fluid or concrete ottos of great delicacy of odour, and are specially suited for the manufacture of perfumed lozenges or for making perfumes of any kind, and they are, we understand, being largely employed by soap-manufacturers for the finer qualities of soaps.

MESSRS. SHIRLEY'S UNBREAKABLE MENTHOL CONES seem to be a decided success. A representative of the firm brought a handful of them into this office a day or two since, and dashed them about the floor in reckless and violent fashion, and did no damage, at least not to the cones. We tested one until we did succeed in breaking it, but that result was only achieved after a demonstration of force which is never likely to be necessary in such a refined locality as a pharmacy.

PENROSE'S PICTORIAL ANNUAL.—We have received a copy of "The Process Year-book" for 1898 from Penrose & Co., Upper Baker Street, W.C. This year the volume has cloth covers, and contains over one hundred illustrations showing a great variety of processes, including several examples of three colour processes. There is an article by Mr. D. C. Dallas on "The Brush in Line Drawing for Process Engraving," which is illustrated by a Dallatype from a wood-engraving done for us by Mr. Thomas Scott of Dr. Muter, and which originally appeared in THE CHEMIST AND

DRUGGIST, December 16, 1874. It is inserted to show the advantages of brush over pen work. We are bound to say the reproduction hardly does justice to the exquisite modelling and fine details of the original engraving. The "Year-book" contains samples of everything good in process work.

Marriages.

BRODIE—PORTER.—At 13 Rutland Square, Edinburgh, by the Rev. F. H. Bardwell, M.A., John Dallass Brodie, A.P.S., Edinburgh, to Annie Cramond, eldest daughter of Mr. J. C. Porter, music-seller, Edinburgh.

CRAFT—FULLER.—On April 27, at St. Peter's Church, Earley, Berks, by the Rev. C. E. Adams, Vicar, Charles, third son of James Craft, of Oakleigh, Earley, and 24 London Street, Reading, homœopathic chemist, to Evelyn, eldest daughter of the late Frederick Fuller, of Stoke Ferry, Norfolk.

CROSBY—WOOLLEY.—On April 21, at St. John the Baptist Church, Leicester, by the Ven. Archdeacon Mesney, uncle of the bride, assisted by the Rev. R. Lowman Lang, M.A., Thomas Villiers Crosby, M.B., Lond., Osgathorpe House, near Loughborough, to Florence Kate Blennerhasset, second daughter of Mr. G. J. Blennerhasset Woolley, chemist, Leicester.

EMERY—CONROY.—On April 25, at SS. Peter and Paul, New Brighton, by the Rev. Father Stanton, William James Emery, Cobridge, Staffordshire, to Mary, only daughter of the late Michael Conroy, of Woodstock, New Brighton.

JACKSON—CROZIER.—At St. Cuthbert's Church, Lytham, on April 27, W. H. Jackson, solicitor, Halifax, to Louie, daughter of Mr. R. Crozier, chemist and druggist, Lytham.

WARE—CHURCHILL.—On April 9, at the South Street Baptist Church, Exeter, Allan Henry Ware, pharmaceutical chemist, pharmaceutical teacher at the Exeter Technical and University College and Albert Memorial Museum, to Blanche Ethel, fourth daughter of Mr. J. Churchill, South Street, Exeter.

Deaths.

ANDREWS.—On April 20, Mr. J. H. Andrews, chemist and druggist, 45 High Street, Kensington. Aged 32.

MARCH.—On April 23, at 4 Magnus Street, Newark, Mr. William March, chemist and druggist. Aged 77. After serving his apprenticeship in Stamford, Mr. March spent two years in Paris and Boulogne, and subsequently came to London to a West-end establishment which was patronised by the famous Duke of Wellington. In after years Mr. March used to show to his friends with much pride some of the prescriptions which he dispensed for the Iron Duke, narrating how he (the Duke) would weigh every pill himself before taking it, no matter by whom it was compounded. He afterwards bought the business in Newark, which he carried on in partnership with his former apprentice, Mr. Cherrington, until 1887. The late Mr. March took no active part in public affairs, but was one of the pioneers of the Volunteer movement in Newark, and a crack shot. He was also for some time an overseer of the poor and a sidesman at the parish church.

MASON.—On April 24, at Walton Well Road, Oxford, Mrs. Mason, wife of Mr. John Mason, chemist and druggist.

MOOR.—On April 26, at Droitwich, Mr. George Moor, chemist and druggist.

PADWICK.—On April 29, at Redhill, Surrey, Mr. Thomas Padwick, pharmaceutical chemist.

POWELL.—On April 3, William Powell, of The Priory, Waddon, and 1 Albion Place, Blackfriars, S.E. Aged 65. The late Mr. Powell was head of the firm of Powell & Barstow, manufacturers of Powell's balsam of aniseed.

TOUGH.—On April 25, Mr. George Tough, chemist and druggist, late of Colpy, Insech. Aged 80.

WRIGHT.—On April 12, Mr. Frederick Wright, pharmaceutical chemist, King Street, Knutsford. Aged 24.

"First" Examination.

WE have received from the Registrar of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain the following list of candidates who were successful at the First examination, held on April 12:—

Abduralman, A., London
 Armistead, John, Middleton
 Armstrong, Robt. E., Alnwick
 Arthnr, Jas. W., Peterborough
 Ashworth, Chas. S., Blackpool
 Banner, J. F. H., Sunderland
 Barham, Joseph, Louth
 Barker, F. H., Northampton
 Barker, P. J. W., Brighton
 Baxter, J. R., Grangemouth
 Bebb, Arthur Percy, Walsall
 Bingham, Arthur H., Spalding
 Blackhurst, J. F., Carlton-on-Trent
 Boulton, Jesse, Kidsgrove
 Bowe, James H., Ulverston
 Bowskill, Ernest W., Grimsby
 Briddon, John E. W., Ventnor
 Briggs, Ernest E., Derby
 Brown, Alexr., Edinburgh
 Brown, Jno. S., Campbeltown
 Bryce, John, Dumfries
 Bryden, J. A., Barrow-in-Furness
 Bryson, Robt. D., Walker Burn
 Butcher, Arthur R., Blackpool
 Cable, Alice Mildred, London
 Campbell, Duncan, Douglas
 Cantwell, Arthur S., Retford
 Carine, F. W. R., Manchester
 Carson, James, Edinburgh
 Carter, Arthur L., Blackpool
 Cassie, R. C. H., Hopeman
 Chard, Harold, Louth
 Cook, James, Thornhill
 Cooper, Arthur C., Plymouth
 Cooper, Walter Mell, Sheffield
 Cornell, James R., Ipswich
 Cottrell, Clarence, Oldham
 Cowe, John Geo., Elgin
 Cragg, William, Lincoln
 Crawford, G. Whyte, Glasgow
 Crook, Thomas, Darwen
 Crooks, Jno. T. J., Bishop Auckland
 Daft, George, Southwell
 Dale, John G., Stockton-on-Tees
 Davies, William, Talgarth
 Davis, Albert Hy., Warwick
 Dickie, John Gibb, Glasgow
 Dinwiddie, Wm. D., Dumfries
 Dolton, Robt. W., Caversham
 Done, Thomas, Chester
 Dotchin, Wm. A., Gateshead
 Douglas, Norman McLeod, Aberdeen
 Duncan, Samuel C., St. Helens
 Duthie, R. James, Aberdeen
 Eden, Peter McCulloch, Workington
 Enderby, Geo. Alfred, Boston
 Flew, Wm. Norman, Bradford
 Gardiner, Adam B., Lockerbie
 Gemmell, Matthew, Paisley
 Gilmour, James P., Glasgow
 Girdlestone, W., Manchester
 Good, Thos. Hy., Hull
 Graham, Walter, Edinburgh
 Gray, George, Elgin
 Green, Herbert Hy., Ashbourne
 Gregory, E., Stockton-on-Tees
 Guthrie, Robert, Glasgow
 Hamblen, Richd. R. P., Bournemouth
 Harrop, S., Ashton-under-Lyne
 Harwood, Albert E., Edinburgh
 Hay, J., Newcastle-on-Tyne
 Hays, Fredk. J. A., London
 Heggie, John, Lochec
 Henderson, David, Edinburgh

Hetherington, Hector A., Tillingcoultry
 Hirst, Benjamin A., Ilkley
 Holroyd, Asa, Queensbury
 Horton, Alexr. H., Birmingham
 Hunter, Alexander Sime, Perth
 Huntly, Hilda M., Preston
 Huft, Joseph R., Cheltenham
 Irving, Grave, Maryport
 Jack, Robert M., Lochgilphead
 Jenkins, Hy. Watkins, Brecon
 Jessop, Fred., Oldham
 Joyner, Lily Frances, London
 Kendall, Allan H., Rawdon
 Kendall, Augustus C., Rawdon
 Kerr, William R., Paisley
 Koop, Charles F. R., Brighton
 Lees, Herbert C., Nottingham
 Lewis, Edward A., Bristol
 Louder, Harry, Leyburn
 McBride, Fredk., Grantham
 McCrae, A. C., Newton Stewart
 McKee, Isaac, Glasgow
 McLean, John, Glasgow
 McMillan, J. A., Newton Stewart
 McMurray, A., Castle Douglas
 McNally, David, Wigtown
 McPhail, J., Newcastle-on-Tyne
 Marsden, Joseph, Manchester
 Mathieson, Donald McP., Leith
 Mellor, Wm. Ernest, Newcastle, Staffs
 Miles, Edwin G., Penarth
 Moffatt, Wm., Barnard Castle
 Morgan, Hy. Jones, St. Clears
 Morgan, Wm. E., Blaenffos
 Mortimer, Arthur, Shipley
 Munford, Wm. Jno., Cardiff
 Murray, Wm. Baxter, Rhynic
 Ness, James F., Kirkcaldy
 Nicolas, Violet, London
 Norman, A. C., Bromsgrove
 Norman, Geo. E., Skipton-in-Craven
 Northey, Wm. Geo., Alford
 Old, Herbert A., London
 Oliver, John T., Thornhill
 Ough, Thomas, Liskeard
 Palmer, W., Manchester
 Parkinson, Hy. James, Driffield
 Piquet, Arthur F., Winchester
 Pratt, Geo. H., Huddersfield
 Precece, Percival R., Hitcham
 Prime, W. A., Birmingham
 Raine, Frank H., Darwen
 Ralston, Thos., Campbeltown
 Raper, George, Liverpool
 Rayne, Wm. A., Dumfries
 Righton, Harry H., Cheltenham
 Ritchie, A. W., Edinburgh
 Robertson, A., Burntisland
 Robertson, James, Coatbridge
 Robertson, John, Glasgow
 Ross, David, Tain
 Russell, Jas. R., Anstruther
 Rutter, Arthur D., Warrington
 Sayle, Ernest E., Huntingdon
 Schofield, J. E., Huddersfield
 Scott, Charles, Falkirk
 Searle, Fredk. Wm., Plymouth
 Seers, Philip B., Stafford
 Sewell, A. E., Peterborough
 Shorthouse, Ronald G., Bilston
 Siddie, Charles H., Hull
 Smith, Alex. Hunter, Falkirk
 Smith, Arthur N., Blackburn
 Smith, Henry Edgar, Padilham
 Spence, W. Wilson, Linlithgow
 Stewart, Ernest A., Glasgow
 Stocks, Alfred B., Queensbury

Tait, Adam, Biggar
 Tattersall, E. G., Manchester
 Taylor, Jas. Russell, Dundee
 Tebb, Harry, Hull
 Terry, Louis Geo., Folkestone
 Thompson, J. H. O., Liverpool
 Tildesley, R. W., Rotherham
 Tomkinson, A. E., Liverpool
 Toohig, John H., Narberth
 Tout, William H., Plymouth
 Troughton, C. A. J., Belfast
 Unthank, Wm. R. E., Bedale
 Veitch, G. T., Castle Douglas
 Waddell, R. A., Sunderland
 Wade, Ernest, Halifax
 Waters, Robert S., Wick
 Watson, John, Thirsk
 Watts, Albert A., Sheffield
 Webb, James T., Dukinfield
 Weir, Thomas, Innerleithen

Wells, Wm. Sidney, Newark
 White, W. Harold, Cheltenham
 Whitley, Wm. Owen, Rhyl
 Wicks, Fredk. C. G., Oxford
 Wilbourne, J. H., Chesterfield
 Wilkie, Robert B., Leven
 Williams, Allan O., Pontypridd
 Williams, Gwilym E., Abergyle
 Wilson, E. O., Bridlington Quay
 Wilson, Frank, Barnard Castle
 Wilson, Fredk. Chas., Leeds
 Wood, Denys R., Malvern Link
 Woodward, Geo. Edgar, Truro
 Wright, Ernest James, Witney
 Wright, Robert, Manchester
 Wynne, E. Williams, Aberystwith
 Young, Frank James, Watford
 Young, John, Dumfries

Personalities.

MR. A. W. BALL asks us to contradict a rumour that he is about to sever his association with Messrs. Oppenheimer, Sons & Co. (Limited).

MR. THOMAS LAMB, Eldon Street, Clay Cross, near Chesterfield, writes to say he is not the gentleman whom we supposed the *Pharmaceutical Era* referred to, in a paragraph quoted in *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST*, April 30, page 698.

MR. EDWARD EVANS, Jun., of Evans, Sons & Co., Liverpool, has been seriously indisposed, but is now progressing satisfactorily, although he is not at present able to attend to any correspondence. In consequence of his illness Mr. Evans's visit to America has been indefinitely postponed.

A SON of Mr. Jordan, chemist, Pontardawe, recently qualified as a chemist, and a telegram announcing the fact reached the proud father in the following terms:—

Sorrow vanquished;
 Labour ended,
 Jordan passed.

MR. J. W. BODGER, chemist and druggist, has been appointed Honorary Observer for Peterborough to the Phenological Department of the Royal Meteorological Society. The duties include the observation of natural phenomena, such as the advent and departure of migratory birds, and the collection of information concerning plants, flowers, insects, and animals peculiar to the neighbourhood.

THE New York Academy of Sciences has elected three well-known British botanists as corresponding members of the Society, viz. Professor I. B. Balfour, Edinburgh, Mr. William Carruthers, F.R.S., formerly curator of the herbarium at the British Museum, and Mr. George Murray, F.R.S., his successor. In strict accordance with American notions, the Society call the latter two gentlemen "Professors."

In the District Registry the will of the late Mr. Ferdinand Hurter, Ph.D., analytical chemist, Liverpool, has been proved by his widow, who is named jointly with Mr. Charles Driffield, of Appleton, as his executrix and executor. The personal estate has been sworn at 6,272l. 13s. 4d. gross, and 5,833l. 8s. 8d. net, all of which he bequeathed absolutely to his widow, Mrs. Hannah Hurter, of Holly Lodge, Cressington Park.

THE MEDICINAL PLANTS OF WEST AFRICA have recently been described by Mr. A. F. Moller, of Coimbra, to the German Pharmaceutical Society, and his paper is printed in the "Proceedings" (1898, vol. 2).

It is reported in the local papers that the business of Wilson & Son, chemists, Harrogate, is about to be converted into a company. Mr. J. H. Wilson, pharmaceutical chemist and ex-Mayor, who retains the largest portion of the shares, is to be the managing director, and his fellow-directors will be Mr. W. Gilmour, manager of the Bradford Old Bank; Mr. E. Standing, of E. Standing (Limited); and Mr. A. W. Wood, who has managed Messrs. Wilson's Central Pharmacy, in James Street, for some years. There will be no public issue of a prospectus, the shares being chiefly reserved for customers.

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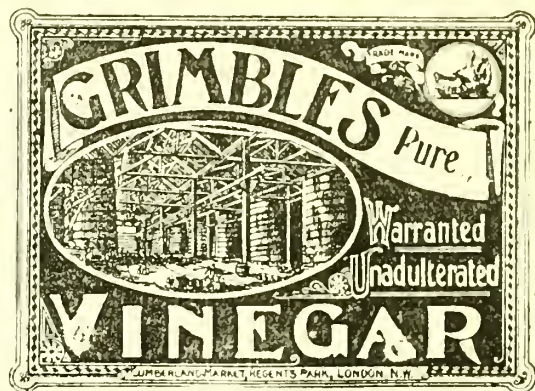
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BRITISH PHARMACOPŒIA, 1898.



WINTER WORK.

THE closing meetings of the session are being reported secretaries are looking for a rest, treasurers are counting up their assets, and the congested pages of our journals are getting a little freer. There are more than half a hundred chemists' associations in the United Kingdom; a few are steadily active, some are intermittently so, and the rest are content to have a local habitation and a name.

The 1897-98 session stands out prominently from many which have preceded it in regard to the association idea

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Mr. Glyn-Jones (as representing the P.A.T.A.), Mr. William L. Currie (as President of the Federation of Associations), and Mr. Walter Hills (as formulator of the Pharmacy Bill) have all been working the wires, trying to make the trade jump like one man. They have certainly not been without influence in forming new associations, reviving old ones, and providing debatable pabulum. Derby, Dundee, Grimsby, Leicester, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Newport (Mon.), Oxford, Southampton, and Windsor have either organised or have bulked more largely in our records during the past winter than they have done for some years. We cannot name any associations which have lapsed, although there seems to be a decadence of enthusiasm in a few. For some time it seemed as if the session was to be merely the echo of Bloomsbury. The faithful all through the country went through the arguments for the "consolidation of the Society" with a patience and volubility worthy of a greater if not of a better cause. The audiences were thin, but the speakers trusted to amiable editors to give them a show in print, though each one repeated what had been said before, and could do nothing else. If now and then a pharmaceutical philistine ventured on a criticism or an objection, he rarely had the courage to stick to his contradiction to the end, and the resolutions were generally carried unanimously. The promptness with which the ready-made resolutions were discussed and passed was beaten by the Pharmaceutical Council, who, while the associations were busy debating them and selecting such as they wished to have passed into law, launched their little Pharmacy Bill without consideration for the desires of their constituents. The associations showed no resentment, but settled down to balls, concerts, dinners, smokers, suppers, and other manifestations of friendliness. In this connection we are bound to remark that the new pharmaceutical songs which we have culled from these festive gatherings have been almost more notable for originality than the scientific papers. It is a pleasant reflection that humour abides with us, although cutters have played havoc with our profits.

As Christmas approached active associations began to settle down to the conventional work which makes for the progress of pharmacy. Once upon a time the Pharmaceutical Society's meetings in Bloomsbury gave the keynote to the country, but it is no longer so; and had it not been for Messrs. Braithwaite and White's paper on "Suppositories," Messrs. Farr and Wright's on "Alkaloidal Extracts," and Professor Greenish and Mr. Wilson's on "Cantharides," the session would have been a failure. The North British Branch has also had a quiet session, with nothing specially distinctive about the contributions. The Executive have reverted to the old night of meeting—Wednesday—and, with a thoughtfulness which we have pleasure in acknowledging, have given reporters facilities for copying papers, so that full reports can be given in the week of the meeting. Under the new presidency, the Irish Society has revived its evening meetings with conspicuous success. Half the meetings have been devoted to public lectures by popular medical men and scientists, and the other half to pharmaceutical topics, which are discussed in a conversational way. In this manner the Society attracted the interest of the members without jeopardising the popularity of the younger body—the Irish Pharmacists' Assistants' Association, which has had another remarkably useful session, in the course of which Mr. W. F. Wells lectured on "Pharmaceutical Ethics" and Mr. Robinson on "Pharmacy in Ireland." Mr. Wells's lecture was suggested by Mr. Leo Atkinson's paper at the Glasgow Conference, which also inspired Mr. David Storrar to a good effort before the North British Branch; but, truth to tell, the subject has been threshed within an Ince of its

life, and had better be shelved now that nobody can work up enthusiasm regarding it—it certainly does not draw an audience.

Amongst provincial associations in England the two in Liverpool still hold premier rank for continuous effort and excellence of work. The senior association on the Mersey has had a number of useful papers during the session, and we do not mean to reflect upon anyone when we single out Dr. Charles Symes's on the "Influence of Alcohol on the Action of Pepsin," because since we read it in English we have seen it in French, German, Dutch, Italian, Spanish, Roumanian, Russian, and, we think, Japanese. Liverpool men have the knack of fixing upon subjects of universal interest. We may instance in that connection Mr. H. Wyatt's "Dispensing Notes," read to the junior association, and Mr. Marsden on "Russian Pharmacy," both useful papers. Manchester does not play second fiddle to Liverpool, but has a tune of her own, which during the session has been an unofficial and abortive attempt to wreck the Pharmacy Bill, which the whole country (so far as it is represented by associates and members of the Pharmaceutical Society) will have an opportunity of expressing an opinion about when Mr. Walter Gibbons's name comes before them as an applicant for a seat on the Pharmaceutical Council. Birmingham has not been boisterous this session, because both its senior and junior associations have been content to keep the members together by sociality and occasional useful evenings. At Brighton Mr. A. T. Jeeves roused the ire of Bloomsbury scribes, which had scarce cooled after Mr. Taylor's peppering of the Society at Manchester, by his factious straight tip on the Pharmacy Stakes. Bristol, Exeter, and Plymouth have shown signs of their existence, and Newcastle is gradually getting back into the group of live associations, but has found the shabby and the social enough for it. In London the, no-longer Western, Chemists' Association has smoked many a pleasant pipe near Westbourne Grove, and has watched the Empire effectively, while nearer the City, in Newman Street, the Chemists' Assistants' Association, has for once stood upon its own legs, and, for the bigwigs who used to lecture them, had specially-qualified members to give demonstrations in departments of applied science which the pharmacist can attach to his business. The idea was excellent, and has been well carried out.

Across the Border the Glasgow Association has provided us with a sensation or two, several good practical papers and a quaint one by Mr. McKellar which raises us above the pedicular outburst by Burns—

Oh wad some power the giftie gie us
To see oursels as ithers see us.

Mr. McKellar held up the magic mirror to us in his paper on "The Pharmaceutical Press." On the East Coast the Edinburgh Trade Association is becoming a force to be reckoned with. It is a model chemists' association, meeting quarterly, eschewing science, and fostering business-instincts. The North British Branch is a safety-valve for its veteran scientists, and the local Assistants' Association for the juniors, which is one reason why the latter Association manages to maintain its place with good practical work.

None but the most abject pessimists can look back upon the session of 1897-98 and say that British pharmacy is decadent, and we are poor prophets if at the end of the century we find ourselves in the wrong when we say that the British Pharmacopœia of 1893 will be as new blood in the veins of the chemists' associations of Great Britain and Ireland. It is our national inheritance to grumble, and the Pharmacopœia authorities would have been false to their traditions if they had given us an unblemished book.

INDIVIDUALS v. COMPANIES.

THE discussion on a chemists' assistants' trade-union, which was opened by "Tocsin" in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST of March 12, and closed by the same writer in last week's issue, offers a curious study. To begin with, not one of our correspondents on the subject disclosed his name. *En revanche*, they did their best to invest their assumed names—*noms de guerre* in truth this time—with the utmost ferocity. Following "Tocsin" came "Watchman"; then we had "Fiery Cross," "Dissatisfied," "Dixi," "Sword," "Drawn Sword," "Anti-Humbug," and "Anti-Cant." The anonymous writer is generally fearless. He is sometimes libellous, and he is always very contemptuous of the white-livered editor who hesitates to print his bold declamations. This remark does not apply particularly to the gentlemen who took part in the recent debate. We do not by any means object to our old friend "Anon." His arguments are just as sound however they are signed, but it is a curious fact that nothing ever results, or is likely to result, from letters from Nooneknowswhere and Nooneknowswho. We cannot pretend to think that any permanent effect could have come from this correspondence if everybody had published his name, nor if those names had all been great ones. We expressed our opinion to this effect when "Tocsin's" first letter appeared, and we are accused of having quashed the discussion—an unfair allegation. All we did was to present the other side, which is the best prelude to a debate.

What "Tocsin" wanted was for chemists' qualified assistants to form a trade-union, binding themselves not to enter the employment of unqualified companies, and the consideration was that if they did not do this soon these unqualified companies, backed by capitalists, would spread over the land and destroy all hope of assistants getting into business for themselves. The idea was not new, but "Tocsin" put it with force, and apparently with conviction. It is of course true that if assistants could be got to do as they are asked unanimously, drug companies would be much embarrassed. It might also happen that the present generation of chemists in business would benefit incidentally. It would be an unusual sort of trade-union; its reason for existence being the altruistic one of denying to its associates present advantages for the benefit of their employers, and perhaps for an ultimate benefit to themselves. But, however sound the reasoning may be, is it worth while to plan out schemes the success of which requires the unanimous support of a large constituency? Mankind is not constructed with a capability of unanimity, and pharmaceutical mankind seems especially gifted with the critical faculty.

Moreover, we do not admit the basis of the alarm. There is no danger of the individual qualified chemist being snuffed out. Given equality in business capacity, and he will certainly beat his unqualified company competitor. If a business worked from a distant centre under the management of a salaried manager can pay better than one run by a competent pharmacist on his own account, the pharmacist is certainly deficient in some essential respect. A few drug companies seem to be paying at present, but not all of them. There are hundreds of shareholders in such concerns who would be glad to get back the money they put into them. The principle of company pharmacy is not a financially sound one, and the cases where it has succeeded have been those where exceptionally able men have been the inspiring forces. To the extent that pharmacy differs from Lipton's tea and bacon, so should be the difference in Stock Exchange estimate between shares in companies formed to work one or the other. Chemists have not gone through the competition of the last twenty years without learning a good deal from their rivals, and we maintain that it is healthier to urge

them to exert every nerve and to employ the better knowledge they possess to squeeze out their foes than to draft artificial schemes, however perfect on paper, which there is no hope of making workable.

QUININE WAVERING.

THE anomalous condition of the quinine-market has been slightly relieved. Second-hand holders on Wednesday began to look at less than 1s. per oz. for the sulphate, although it is well known that manufacturers have not been selling, and will, ere this issue reaches our subscribers, but after we have gone to press, have decided whether their prices are to remain where they are or are to be changed. A higher price was looked for if cinchona-bark sold dearer at Amsterdam to-day (Thursday). The unit was expected to advance to 7c., and for confirmation or otherwise of that we refer to our cablegram, where it will be seen that the average paid was 5.20c. The manufacturers claim that better prices are justified, because the demand for quinine is good, and by the price of bark. They do not attach much importance to the Hispano-American war, and this idea is supported by the easing-off in second-hand prices, which is due chiefly to the prospects of the war being short and confined to the sea. So far the advance has been occasioned by speculative purchases, and, although that disturbing element is rarely absent from the market, it has generally worked in prospect of some radical change in the supply of raw material. Why they do not select bark for their operations it is difficult to tell. We have on previous occasions called attention to the influence which Java quinine may have upon the supply of Java bark, the European quinine-manufacturers' mainstay; but, so far, the information in regard to the quinine-works in Java has been too general for definite conclusions, while the supply of bark has increased rather than diminished. We now have more specific information before us, and, in presenting it, we, for clearness sake, review the conditions which prevailed before Java undertook the manufacture of quinine. We shall take it from the Amsterdam point of view, since the market there dominates the supply. It will be remembered that when Amsterdam reached that position, cheap bark and quinine became inevitable, and continued sales from the large London stocks threw greater quantities of bark on the market than the quinine-works required, very little was bought on speculation, and a decline in the prices naturally followed. The margin between the price of quinine and that of bark, which, in 1888, was 7fl. (11s. 8d.), gradually fell, until in 1892 it was only 4fl., and at one of the auctions in that year it came down even to 3fl. (5s.). With a margin of from 5fl. to 6fl. the manufacturers were still able to work with a good profit, but the downward tendency caused much dissatisfaction, and, to remedy matters, the most important quinine-manufacturers combined to depress the price of bark. Growers are naturally inclined to sell their output quickly, as very few of them are backed up by sufficient capital to allow their stocks to lie idle and increase; so the combination had it all their own way until recently, when some Java planters resolved to turn their bark into quinine, which they reckoned would give them as good profits as bark, and better if they embarrassed European quinine-manufacturers. Three factories have been established in Java, the most important being the Bandoeng quinine-works, which have been working for over twelve months, although it is only within the past two months that their quinine has come into the market. The company which owns the works is well supplied with capital, otherwise it could not have met the difficulties which have repeatedly been placed in its way, which difficulties extended even to the fitting of

the factory and its superintendence. These difficulties have been overcome, and when we consider what the works have already done in the production of quinine it would be unreasonable to exclude the supposition that with extended experience they will produce an article which is as merchantable as any. Moreover, Mr. John Smit Sibniga, the director of the Langen-Ardjo plantations, to whose "manifesto" we alluded in our issue of February 12 (page 288), has successfully carried out his combination amongst the planters, who have contracted with the Bandoeng works to supply a certain proportion of their output to the Bandoeng works, against payment on a sliding-scale, varying with the prices obtained for the manufactured product; they also agree not to supply any bark to other quinine-manufacturers without the consent of the Bandoeng works. The latter have secured the orders from the Netherlands-Indian Government, and the remainder of the manufactured quinine is sold for collective account by a wealthy firm in Samarang.

The following, according to a writer in the *Pharmaceutisch Weekblad*, is the method of manufacture adopted in the factory:—

At present only sulphate of quinine is produced, but the intention is to extend the scope of the works soon, and to add the manufacture of hydrochloride of quinine, &c. Ledgeriana is the only bark used, and the different parcels are mixed in such manner that the contents are always approximately 5 per cent. The bark is then ground to a fine powder, and mixed with about 50 per cent. of slaked lime and a sufficient quantity of water to give it a consistency which allows it to be transported in baskets to a vertical tank containing a certain quantity of mineral oil. This oil, of a sp. gr. of 0.92 and a boiling-point of 130° C., dissolves the alkaloid in a proportion of about $\frac{1}{3}$ to 1 per cent. The tank is heated by means of a coil, through which steam is passed for about half an hour. When steam is shut off, the mixture separates readily into two layers, of which the upper—i.e., the oil, which now holds the alkaloids in solution—is drawn off; the remainder is again heated, in order to separate any oil that might have been left. The oil is then pumped into another reservoir, and warmed with a quantity of 1-per-cent. sulphuric acid, which removes the alkaloid. The acid-solution of the sulphates is then drawn off, again heated, and almost, but not quite, neutralised with either ammonia or soda. As soon as it is sufficiently concentrated, it is run into shallow dishes holding about 5 to 6 gals., and there left to cool, by which means the crude sulphate of quinine crystallises out. This crude product then passes through a centrifuge, and the residue is washed, and afterwards purified by treatment with charcoal and re-crystallised. It is then dried and packed for export.

So far, we understand, the company is satisfied with the results of the sales of its product in Europe, and regular shipments have been arranged for. The producers are apparently content to sell their product at less than second-hand prices of German quinine, and it has been eagerly bought here for manufacturing-purposes, so that its future is practically assured. Their principal danger is that of being squeezed out by the European manufacturers, but the latter do not appear to have given any indication of moving in that direction, perhaps because of their failure to move the Java people otherwise. In any case, dear quinine appears to be a remote possibility.

THE BRITISH PHARMACOPŒIA, 1898.

The following is an exact copy of the advertisement in the *London Gazette* of April 29, 1898, announcing the publication of the new edition of the British Pharmacopœia:—

Notice is hereby given that the British Pharmacopœia, having been revised, has been republished under the direction and by the authority of the General Council of Medical Education and Registration of the United Kingdom, and that the same has been printed and published by Messrs. Spottiswoode & Company, of 54 Gracechurch Street, in the city of London, printers and publishers.

Dated the 29th day of April, 1898.

HENRY E. ALLEN, Registrar.

We are informed by the printers that the Pharmacopœia will be actually published on Wednesday next, May 11. We hope to send off the copies ordered through us on that day.

THE PHARMACEUTICAL COUNCIL'S REPORT.

The official report of the Council's work and the annual financial statement of the Pharmaceutical Society, which we print this week, are rather slow reading, and can hardly furnish a text for much lively discussion at the annual meeting. The items of the report are of the purest official character and call for no comment, though we note that the Council profess to be still hopeful of overcoming the "Cross" difficulty, which blocks the way of their Pharmacy Bill, before the end of the Session. The financial statement last year showed an excess of receipts over expenditure to the amount of 542*l.*; but we pointed out at the time that this did not fairly represent the transactions, inasmuch as it showed the full year's receipts from the school, but only a fourth of the extra expense incurred by the new scheme of education. This year the school accounts are on a fair basis, and they show that the school is to cost the Society a net 1,200*l.* a year. This is the principal feature of the financial statement this year, but the general result seems to be a deficiency of receipts over expenditure of nearly 500*l.*, notwithstanding that the profit from the examinations again totals up to over 6,000*l.* With the prospect of an enormous increase of profit from this source in a year or two, a deficiency of 500*l.* is not worth troubling about.

THE IMPORTS OF COCOA.

By the courtesy of the Chancellor of the Exchequer we have been favoured with the exact figures of the duty paid on the imports into this country of raw and manufactured cocoa, as referred to in his Budget speech. The particular feature of that speech which interested us was the statement that the imports of "manufactured" cocoa were three times as great in the last financial year as they were two years ago. This was rather unexpected. We thought it was the home-prepared cocoa which was growing in favour. The following are the exact figures recorded at the Statistical Office of the Custom House:—

Net Duty received on Cocoa, Raw and Prepared, in the two financial years 1895-96 and 1897-98.

	1895-93	1897-98
	£	£
Cocoa, raw	103,503	116,434
„ prepared	21,032	66,213
Total	124,535	182,647

The duty on raw cocoa being 1*d.* per lb. and that on manufactured cocoa 2*d.* per lb., it appears from this statement that while our imports of raw cocoa had increased by 3,103,440 lbs., those of cocoa manufactured abroad had increased by 5,421,720 lbs., a notable and not very easily explainable fact.

DOCTOR IN PHARMACY.

A Philadelphia correspondent sends us an account of an eventful day at the College of Pharmacy of that city, when for the first time the degree of Doctor in Pharmacy was conferred on American students at that famous centre of pharmaceutical learning. Americans are fond of distinctive titles, and some of these have but a shadowy basis, but it cannot be fairly said that the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy has ever pandered to this appetite. A graduate in pharmacy of that institution has been a man who all over the world has borne an assured reputation for a sound know-

ledge of his profession. We presume the college authorities have seen good reason to institute this new degree, though we have not their arguments before us. It is given, it appears, after three years of college study following four years of practical experience and certain examinations, and differs from the graduate course only by an extra year of college work, and perhaps by a stiffer examination. Curiously, the description "pharmaceutical chemist" is obtainable at Philadelphia by candidates who have passed through the same college course with examinations, but have not had any practical experience.

Doctor in pharmacy is a title which would be energetically opposed in this country by the medical profession, and with some reason; and unless the aspirant could have a very high-class business assured to him, it might be somewhat incongruous. Even in the United States we catch ourselves hoping that not many of the eighty-seven doctors who took the cap and gown last month will have to serve at the soda-counter. The degree is a recognised one in Germany, Russia, Austria, Spain, Italy, and Greece; but in all those countries the practices of medicine and pharmacy are so rigidly fenced off from each other, that the same danger of confusion does not exist. In most of those countries, apprenticeship, assistantship, five to seven years of studentship, and then a special course of study ending with a thesis is necessary before the degree can be obtained. How much simpler is our British system of merely registering at Somerset House?

SPANISH TRADE.

A timely consular report on the trade of Spain has been issued by the Foreign Office (No. 2065, 2½d.), which gives further evidence, if any was needed, of the fact that the commercial position of that country is on the decline. The agricultural crisis, heavy taxes, and a high tariff have helped to shrink importations generally, and tend to limit them to absolutely necessitous articles. Amid this general depression it is satisfactory to note, however, that the imports of chemical products increased from 935,684*l.* in 1896 to 1,066,604*l.* in 1897, of which 743,946*l.* came direct from Great Britain in 1896; the proportion of this country's exports last year is not stated. An increase is also noted in the exports of drugs and chemical products, the figures being:—1896: 856,934*l.* (including Great Britain, 96,161*l.*); 1897: 981,344*l.* The exports of quicksilver to other countries than Great Britain amounted to 287,249*l.*, against 336,540*l.* in 1896. From the same report we gather that there were twenty-three quicksilver "concessions" at work in Spain in 1895, employing 1,528 workmen, the value of the metal at the mouth of the mine being 249,763*l.* The British Consul at Asturias, Spain, reporting on the trade of that province, says that the local dynamite-works imported in 1897 the following chemicals from Great Britain:—Caustic soda, 21 tons; bicarbonate of soda, 7 tons; soda sulphate, 214 tons. From Belgium: nitrate of soda, 514 tons; carbonate of soda, 158 tons; sulphate of soda, 260 tons; sulphur, 64 tons; nitrate of potash, 60 tons; starch, 53 tons. From Germany: nitrate of soda, 405 tons; nitrate of potash, 217 tons; and a few unimportant amounts from Holland and France. This, says our Consul, is very unsatisfactory to British trade, and applies equally to all other substances employed in pharmacy, perfumery, and chemical industries. No glycerin was imported in 1897, owing to supplies coming *via* Bilbao since the formation of the syndicate for the monopoly of explosives.

TINNED FOODS.

Dr. F. Brown has reported to the *Journal of the Sanitary Institute* upon the cases of poisoning from tinned foods which have been recorded during the past twenty years, and the general conclusion seems to be that the poisoning is

due in a great measure to the presence of ptomaines, therefore to decomposition of the foods, through imperfect packing. Tinned fruits appear to be almost harmless, although salts of tin and zinc have occasionally been found in such goods, and in the case of tinned pears and apricots lead in sufficient quantity to give rise to lead-poisoning has been found. It is suggested that the date of packing should be placed upon every tin, so as to give the public some assurance whether this has been recent or not, because the sooner tinned foods are eaten after they are packed the better.

REVISION REQUIRED.

In the list of corresponding members of the Society of Pharmacy of Paris we observe four names under Great Britain, viz.:—

Attfield, à Londres. 1867.

Griffith, à Dublin. 1876.

Carteighe (J.), à Londres. 1867.

Redwood, à Londres. 1867.

It would be well if the officers of the Society would revise the list at least for Great Britain. Mr. John Carteighe, Professors Griffith and Redwood are no longer with us.

ABUSE IS NOT ARGUMENT.

If we may judge from their press representative, the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society are adopting vituperation of this journal as a standing feature of their policy. The hitting of the pharmaceutical editor is rather of the jacket-dusting character; there is nothing graceful or scientific about it, and it does no hurt—at least, not to us. But his last explosion is so disingenuous that it deserves to be specially gibbeted. The occasion is the circular which, as we mentioned last week, Mr. Boot, of Nottingham, had addressed to members of the House of Commons in opposition to the Pharmacy Bill. In the course of that circular Mr. Boot referred to "the best and most influential journal of the trade," which was not the *Bloomsbury* publication, and the reference is quoted in order to sneer at "the trade organ which is fond of posing as the especial guide, philosopher, and friend of the craft" and to suggest to the careless reader that *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* has been the supporter of company-pharmacy.

We cannot help being "the best and most influential journal of the trade"; with our contemporary to beat it would be difficult to be otherwise. But a moment's retrospect will easily show who has been responsible for company-pharmacy, and we intend to rub it in whenever it is necessary.

When the Pharmaceutical Society lost their company case in the House of Lords in 1880 they were, it was thought, quite determined to go at once to Parliament to get their Act amended. In 1881 they had drafted a marvellous Bill dealing with the company question among others, but they never introduced it to Parliament, and though they have drafted half-a-dozen Bills since they have never mentioned companies in any of them. Moreover, when Mr. Carteighe made his supreme attempt in 1890 to get a Pharmacy Bill through Parliament, he persistently refused to have anything to do with the subject, though he was urgently pressed by many pharmacists, and systematically by ourselves, to make the prevention of company-pharmacy a chief plank in his platform. It is true that he did bring the subject before the Departmental Committee of the Board of Trade when the Companies Acts were considered, but now that the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland have succeeded in getting the influential support of the British Medical Association to their crusade, we look in vain for any reference to the assistance of the British Pharmaceutical Society.

It may be too late now to do much; we are afraid it is. If so, the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain must bear the blame. But, however that may be, bouncing hints of what they are going to do and abusive comments on other people cannot be of any service.

The British Pharmacopœia, 1898.

COMMENTS AND CRITICISMS.

OFFICIAL INCONSISTENCIES.

By F. W. FLETCHER, Ph.C., F.C.S.

II.

THE more closely the Pharmacopœia is scrutinised, the more marked become the inconsistencies and contradictions with which it abounds. Mr. David Howard and Mr. A. J. Cownley have already exposed some of the absurdities which characterise the chemical tests, but even these cannot compare with the confusion and disorder which reign supreme in the department of practical pharmacy. It has been remarked by a competent critic that "pedantry has been rampant" in the construction of the present Pharmacopœia. This is the explanation in a nutshell. On what other hypothesis would it be possible to explain why, for example, the primitive mustard-seed should be grandiloquently described as "one millimetre in diameter and one and a third milligramme in weight," whilst coca and its preparations are passed by without so much as a hint that their medicinal value is wholly dependent upon the presence of an alkaloid? Again, notwithstanding the most precise botanical definition of the source of ipecacuanha-root, accompanied by elaborate precautions to exclude the Cartagena variety, no information is vouchsafed as to the proportion of alkaloid the root should contain, although there is a standardised extract made from it. Many practitioners prefer to prescribe the powdered root to any other form of ipecacuanha, but as far as the Pharmacopœia is concerned the exhausted root may just as well be employed as an assayed sample. Is ipecacuanha such a useless ingredient in pulv. ipecac. co. that it matters not whether it contains alkaloid or not? The same remark applies to nuxvomica, which is also frequently prescribed in powder. The botanical sources of prunes and figs are depicted with as much solemnity as if it were a question of atomic weight, whilst raisins are relegated to the common lodging-house of "commerce." Why saffron should be retained in the vilest of vile concoctions—dec. aloes co.—wherein its flavour is smothered and its colour useless, and expunged from pulv. cretæ arom., in which its presence was agreeable both to the eye and to the stomach, is another of the conundrums upon which the new Pharmacopœia bases its claim to fame. Perhaps one of the most silly of the freaks perpetrated by the committee is the excision of the tincture of dried orange-peel. If some faddist wanted a preparation of the fresh peel, why not have resuscitated the tr. aurantii recentis of the 1867 "Additions," and have left the unoffending and time-honoured tr. aurant. alone? Apart from the fact that the tincture of the fresh peel can only be prepared at one season of the year, and that it will be more than twice as costly as the old tincture, endless confusion may be safely predicted to arise when the new tincture comes to be used in dispensing prescriptions written prior to the appearance of the revised B.P. Indeed, the vista opened up in this direction may well cause the pharmacist's heart to sink within him. To take an example. A prescription for a gout-mixture is handed in containing "tr. colchici sem. ziiij." It has been dispensed in April with the tincture of the 1835 Pharmacopœia. What is to be used in May, June, or some future month when the 1898 Pharmacopœia is legalised? To dispense the 1885 tincture will be to incur the risk of a prosecution on the

certificate of some aspiring public analyst; to dispense the 1898 tincture may lead to a coroner's inquest on the patient. Similar difficulties present themselves with tr. nucis vom., tr. stramonii, tr. lobeliæ æth., and the kaleidoscopic tr. chloroformi et morphinæ co., not to mention others of less poisonous character of which the strength has been increased from 50 to 150 per cent.

But this is only one aspect of the evil, viewed from the standpoint of the pharmacist in relation to prescriptions written prior to the advent of the 1898 edition. It is notorious that the bulk of the medical profession know nothing and care less about the introduction of a new Pharmacopœia. In process of time they will gradually recognise its existence, but not until thousands of prescriptions have been written in the full assurance of faith that the strengths and doses of the ingredients are unaltered. Assuming that drugs have the properties ascribed to them not only the patient but the prescriber will be very much astonished at the effects produced. Although the pharmacist is to be visited with divers pains and penalties if he dispenses any preparation named in the Pharmacopœia of 1898 which is not in accordance with the formula therein ordained, it has not been proposed to penalise the practitioner who continues prescribing for his patients on the basis of a Pharmacopœia which has become extinct and illegal.

Only the very gravest reasons would have justified the committee in tampering with the strengths and doses of tinctures. But, with a wanton recklessness of which the consequences cannot now be foreseen, the whole of the formulæ have been plunged into chaos. And all for what? Partly for the sake of arriving at a purely academic and uncalled-for uniformity of dosage, and partly for an alleged improvement in the mode of preparation. As regards the first of these two motives, it would be just as reasonable to adulterate nine-tenths of the alkaloids and their salts in order to make the doses correspond to that of the other tenth. Unless the dose of strychnia is to be made the same as that of quinine, and the dose of aconitine to be levelled up to a corresponding standard, there is no justification for the attempt to squeeze eighteen absolutely distinct and different tinctures into the same narrow limits of dose. The topsyturvy policy which has resulted in the introduction of fantastic methods for making the tinctures will be dealt with in a subsequent article. In the meantime it may be safely asserted that could a *plébiscite* be taken of the entire body of medical practitioners, as well as of pharmacists, the Pharmacopœia of 1898 would be as promptly withdrawn as was its predecessor of 1864.

The Treasurer of the General Medical Council is reported to have remarked with reference to a recent incident that it raised the whole question whether pharmacists should be allowed to participate in the preparation of the next Pharmacopœia. With the edition of 1898 in evidence, it would perhaps be more pertinent to inquire whether the General Medical Council should be permitted to retain this privilege. Representative government is not quite at an end in this country, and it is still based on the elementary principle that those who have to obey the laws shall have some share in making them. The General Medical Council is probably at liberty to issue any book of formulæ or any description of drugs it pleases. But when such a publication

acquires, as is at present the case, the authority of a national Pharmacopœia, by the standards of which pharmacists are to be judged, the Legislature is scarcely likely to acquiesce in a proposal to invest the General Medical Council with the powers of the Star Chamber. Even a pharmacist need not be kicked if he objects to it.

THE GALENICAL PREPARATIONS OF THE NEW BRITISH PHARMACOPŒIA.

By John C. Umney, F.C.S.

SPIRITS.

THE alterations made in the spirits of the Pharmacopœia are of considerable importance, and can be best dealt with by alluding to the various preparations in turn. No alterations have been made in the formulæ for spt. ætheris, spt. ammoniæ fetid., and spt. armoraciæ co., but the specific gravities are slightly different in accordance with the alteration in the specific gravity of the alcohol employed.

Spt. Ætheris Co.—Notwithstanding that out of 5,609 medical men (whose opinion was invited by the British Medical Association) 3,356 stated that they *never* prescribed this preparation and 1,195 *rarely*, it has been retained by the compilers of the Pharmacopœia, and the question naturally arises: How is the retail pharmacist or even the manufacturing druggist who has not the facilities for conducting the dangerous process of ether-making to prepare spt. ætheris co. of the new Pharmacopœia?

By comparison of the monographs of the British Pharmacopœia, 1885, and the new edition it will be observed that no directions are now given for the spontaneous evaporation of the liquid obtained by the distillation of the alcohol and sulphuric acid, and the employment of a definite proportion of the so-called ethereal oil resulting, and, therefore, one is in the dark not only as to the actual product that will result from the first part of the new British Pharmacopœia process, but also what proportion of that will be the ethereal oil of the British Pharmacopœia, 1885, produced by the spontaneous evaporation of the liquid obtained somewhat similarly.

Inglis Clark and Dott have stated (*C. & D.* lviii. p. 344) that operating with the quantities of alcohol and sulphuric acid now official—viz., 40 fl. oz. of alcohol and 36 fl. oz. of sulphuric acid—a yield of 13·375 fl. oz. is obtained, which is reduced by spontaneous evaporation at ordinary temperatures to 7½ per cent. of its volume, or by washing with bicarbonate of sodium in addition, as now directed in the British Pharmacopœia, to 6·6 per cent. of its volume.

Assuming the yield by the new British Pharmacopœia process to be that obtained by Inglis Clark and Dott—viz., 13·375 fl. oz. (it should be slightly more from alcohol 90-per-cent., sp. gr. '834) without spontaneous evaporation, but after washing with bicarbonate of sodium—it will be noted that this is about the proportion by which the ether directed to be mixed with the alcohol as a diluent for the ethereal oil has been reduced. In the Brit. Pharm., 1885, it was half as much ether as alcohol—that is, 19 fl. oz. Calculating from the mean of the range of specific gravity given for the product ('810), it will be found that this 13·375 fl. oz. of washed distillate has a specific gravity of about '775—that is to say, it consists almost entirely of ether, or easily volatilised substances, and with a very small proportion only of ethereal oil.

The U.S. Pharm., 1890, makes official as ethereal oil a mixture of equal parts of heavy oil of wine and ether, the mixture having a specific gravity of '910—that is to say, the heavy oil of wine should have a specific gravity of about 1·095.

Mr. David Howard, in speaking briefly of the true oil of

wine separated in the process of the 1885 Pharmacopœia (*vide antea*, p. 675), said that it was worth its weight in gold if made from duty-paid spirit, and it is not to be wondered, therefore, that the samples of ol. æthereum found in commerce (now principally imported) do not even correspond to the ol. æthereum (sp. gr. '910) of the U.S. Pharm., much less to the heavy oil of wine (sp. gr. 1·095) used in the preparation of the ethereal oil of the U.S. Pharm., 1890, and the spontaneously evaporated ethereal oil of the Brit. Pharm., 1885.

Now, although only 3 dr. of this ethereal oil was required to be mixed with 16 oz. of alcohol and 8 of ether in the Brit. Pharm., 1885, the actual quantity of the ol. æthereum of commerce (which has usually a specific gravity of '890 to '910) would be not less than 7 fl. dr., or between 2 and 2½ oz. to make the compound spirit of the Brit. Pharm., 1898, in the quantities by Imperial measure in the monograph—viz., with 38 of alcohol and, say, 16½ or 17 fl. oz. of ether; that is, a sufficiency to make up 19 fl. oz. with the ethereal oil; and even then the composition might be more uncertain than it is even intended to be.

In this country considerable difficulties have presented themselves also in the sale of compound spirit of ether owing to indications of methyl compounds which have been traced, in part at any rate, to the use of the mixed ether residues as ethereal oil, and in consequence the sale of ethereal oil as such has been much restricted.

My attention was called especially to this subject some time since, partly on this account, but also because of the much more cloudy mixture made by a particular sample of compound spirit of ether with water than others with which it had been compared.

The Pharmacopœia now requires definitely that the spirit shall give an opalescent solution when mixed with twice its volume of water, but whether this empirical test, together with the gravity, is sufficient to judge of the quality of the compound I very much doubt. Two courses only appear open to those who cannot prepare the ethereal oil—either to buy the completed compound spirit from other manufacturers or others who can make it, or else to use a considerably greater proportion than formerly of the ethereal oil of commerce (sp. gr. '890 to '910)—say, not less than 2 oz. to 38 fl. oz. of alcohol and 17 fl. oz. of ether.

Spt. Ætheris Nit.—Notwithstanding the strong advocacy of Professor Leech for a simple solution of nitrite of ethyl prepared by the action of sulphuric acid on nitrite of sodium and alcohol, the Pharmacopœia authorities have thought fit to retain the spt. ætheris nitrosi, and describe it still as "a spirituous solution containing ethyl nitrite, aldehyde, and other substances," the words "nitrous compounds" having been replaced by the more definite description ethyl nitrite.

The important consideration is, however, that the description of the preparation—namely, "containing aldehyde"—and the process of production are stated, and it should be noted especially that the process for its preparation is not stated as in the 1885 Pharmacopœia, as one by which "it may be obtained," but it is distinctly directed to be obtained by the official process only.

I have already called attention to the fact that a considerable quantity of spt. ætheris nit. found in commerce is not made by the official process, but by the action of sulphuric acid on alcohol and nitrite of sodium, and the preparation made in this way may be readily distinguished from that prepared by the official process in that it gives practically no indication of aldehyde.

The inclusion of a simple alcoholic solution of ethyl nitrite will be referred to in a subsequent article, but it does

appear unfortunate that the actual strengths of ethyl nitrite in the two preparations—namely, the spirit and this solution—have not been made strictly to correspond, as accurate comparison of the merits of the two products could then have been made.

Reference has already been made in these columns (*vide antea*, page 622) to the alteration in the method of preparation, no alteration having, however, been made in the quantities described in monograph. The instructions now include directions that have been followed on a manufacturing scale no doubt for many years—that is to say, the collection of the distillate in a certain quantity of alcohol placed in the receiver. In the quantities of the Imperial formula the proportion to be placed in the receiver is 1 pint, and in this is to be collected in all 14 oz. of the distillate. This method of preparation results in a considerably better yield of spirit corresponding in strength to the requirements which will be subsequently referred to, and there is no difficulty in obtaining a quantity of product from these quantities equal to $4\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.

The sp. gr. has been altered from “‘840 to ‘845,” which were the figures of the 1885 Pharmacopœia, to “‘838 to ‘842.” The characters and tests have been modified. A degree of acidity is permitted—namely, that it should not effervesce, or only very feebly, with bicarbonate of sodium; the indefinite wording of this, however, makes it of practically no value whatever as a “limit” test.

The wording of the test also with ferrous sulphate has been modified, as the omission of the strong sulphuric acid from the test does not make the zone of colouration so distinct as it did when the strong acid was present and there was consequently a considerable difference in the specific gravity of the liquids which assisted its formation.

The test for the limit of aldehyde should be particularly noted, especially the strength of the solution of sodium hydroxide which is to be employed—viz., the normal standard solution. This aldehyde-test is the best method of distinguishing between spirit of nitrous ether prepared by distillation from nitric and sulphuric acids, copper, and alcohol, and that prepared by the action of sulphuric acid on nitrite of sodium and alcohol; but if the solution of sodium hydroxide be very considerably stronger, the aldehyde reaction is given within half an hour or so, and the mixture becomes a decided brown colour.

It is not clear that there is any particular reason for the inclusion of this test. It is true that it is contained in a modified form in the United States Pharmacopœia, but the spirit of nitre official in that work is one prepared by the action of sulphuric acid on nitrite of sodium and alcohol.

It is unfortunate that much more definite requirements have not been included for the determination of the percentage of ethyl nitrite, especially to definitely fix the limit below which the percentage of ethyl nitrite should not fall. The words still adopted—namely, “not much less than five times its volume”—are far too indefinite to be of practical service in the guidance of magistrates and others in dealing with cases of defective spirit of nitre under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act. What is “not much less than five times” is, of course, a matter of opinion, and it is always unfortunate that a matter of this kind should rest on individual judgment, which might have been more or less authoritatively settled.

The most important point perhaps, however, from the pharmacist's point of view is the inclusion of the synonym “sweet spirit of nitre.” Reference has already been made in these columns to the position taken by the editor of the Pharmacopœia, in his private capacity, as regards the name “sweet spirit of nitre,” but in his official capacity it is clear

that he has been constrained to look upon “sweet spirit of nitre” as the true synonym for spirit of nitrous ether. Considerable difficulty will no doubt arise in the provinces, especially in the Eastern Counties, as to the disposal of large stocks doubtless on hand of the spt. nitri dulc. of the London Pharmacopœia, which has been in considerable demand, and which demand may not have been quite uninfluenced by its lower price compared to the pharmacopœial preparation.

It is not clear what length of time will be allowed for the disposal of stocks on hand, and, whatever it may be, this particular preparation was not that official in the 1885 Pharmacopœia, and consequently some difficulties may arise. The only method of adjustment of stock appears to be the addition of such a quantity of absolute alcohol and concentrated sweet spirit of nitre, prepared by distillation, as will reduce the specific gravity to the required point—namely, ‘842—and will raise the ethyl-nitrite strength to $1\frac{2}{3}$ per cent. as a minimum, or, preferably, to 2 per cent. Unfortunately, however, no opinion can be given as to the exact quantities required without the determination of the ethyl-nitrite strength of the old spt. nitri dulc. to be operated upon.

Spt. Ammon. Aromat.—The formula for this preparation has been set out in detail in the pages of this journal in order to show the style of monograph of the new British Pharmacopœia. The method of preparation is practically unaltered, although it will be noted that the words “the product should measure 1 gallon” have now been omitted. This is doubtless due to the fact that some considerable discussion arose between Dr. Thresh and the late Mr. Conroy on the subject of the specific gravity of the preparation and the actual bulk that was produced by following in detail the process of the 1885 Pharmacopœia. The specific gravity recorded in the first edition of the 1885 Pharmacopœia—namely, ‘886—was acknowledged to be a clerical error on the part of Dr. Thresh, and the specific gravity ‘896, which was substituted, is the lightest limit that it was safe to fix. Several experimenters have stated that that specific gravity could not readily be reached by the official method, and that it would have been better to have had a slightly higher specific gravity—say, ‘898.

The increase in strength of the alcohol now employed—namely, ‘834 in place of ‘838—has had the effect of slightly decreasing the specific gravity, and a range is now given—namely, ‘888 to ‘893—instead of the definite figure contained in the previous work. There is no difficulty in obtaining a preparation of the latter specific gravity—namely, ‘893—although it will not be found possible by the pharmacopœial process to obtain a specific gravity of lower than ‘891.

The Pharmacopœia in its characters and tests now allows that the preparation is “liable to darken slightly.” There is no reason why this allowance should have been made. The employment of so-called ammonia-proof spirit, or the distillation of the spirit with the strong solution of ammonia, readily prevents the development of subsequent colouring, and the preparation made either in this way or from ammonia-proof spirit will keep practically uncoloured for any length of time. No doubt many retail pharmacists have been in the habit of making the preparation without distillation, which is the process official in the United States Pharmacopœia.

The tests for the proportion of carbonate present have been slightly amplified, and the warming of the filtrate, in order to aid precipitation of carbonate of barium, is a decided improvement.

Spt. Menth. Pip.—It should be noted that certain samples of American peppermint oil will not make a bright spirit, but the finer grades, more especially of redistilled oil, are

usually perfectly miscible with 90-per-cent. alcohol in all proportions.

LIQUID EXTRACT OF BELLADONNA, B.P., 1898.

By JOHN J. BRYANT.

IN preparing liquid extract of belladonna according to the new Pharmacopœia process, it will be found that to produce the final $12\frac{1}{2}$ fluid parts of percolate it is necessary to start with 60 fluid parts of menstruum, macerating and percolating in well-closed vessels, to avoid loss of alcohol by evaporation.

Cripps, in his original process (*Pharm. Journ.*, 3, xxv., 793-796), suggests the recovery of the alcohol by displacement with water or by pressure, but in the B.P. there are no such directions. It is reasonable to suppose that every individual practising this process would have recourse to some means of recovering the alcohol, which the B.P. may or may not intend should be lost. The relatively small proportion of menstruum employed, and the appearance of the successive percolates, suggested to me that the drug might not be completely exhausted of its alkaloidal content. This was put to the test of experiment. Two pounds of the root was taken, and from it $12\frac{1}{2}$ fl. oz. of liquid extract was prepared by the repercolation-process, the official directions being strictly followed. The respective mares of the four portions into which the root was divided were next percolated to exhaustion with the same menstruum, and the amount of alkaloid in each liquor thus obtained was determined by the B.P. method, with the following results:—

2 lbs. powdered belladonna-root divided into four portions	Alkaloid		Volume of percolate, B.P. process, after leaving each portion
	The amount obtained by percolation of the mares	Percentage loss of alkaloidal content	
1st portion ...	0.053	4.392	49 fl. oz.
2nd „ ...	0.096	7.956	37 „
3rd „ ...	0.125	10.360	25 „
4th „ ...	0.641	53.128	$12\frac{1}{2}$ „
Total ...	0.915	18.959 by B.P. assay	
Total ...	1.062	22.005 by difference	

The $12\frac{1}{2}$ fl. oz. of percolate assayed 3.764 of alkaloid, or 1.06 gramme per 100 c.c., so that when made up to the required standard (0.75 gramme per 100 c.c.) the product measured $17\frac{1}{2}$ oz. 1 dr. 20 min.

In these days of close competition a loss in alkaloidal value like the above is a matter of very great importance. Taking this into account, and believing that a simple process of maceration and percolation would be less liable to loss of alcohol due to exposure and manipulation, also that it would be more adaptable, and would more readily exhaust the drug than the repercolation-process, the following method was tried, and the result obtained showed it to be satisfactory.

Eight ounces of belladonna-root, in No. 20 powder, was moistened with 6 fl. oz. of a mixture of 7 fluid parts of 90-per-cent. alcohol and 1 fluid part of water, then packed in a cylindrical percolator, 8 fl. oz. more of the same menstruum added, and allowed to macerate for forty-eight hours. Percolation was then allowed to proceed slowly; the first $1\frac{1}{2}$ fl. oz. was collected apart and reserved; more menstruum was added from time to time until a portion, when evaporated and the residue dissolved in $2\frac{1}{2}$ -per-cent. solution

of hydrochloric acid and filtered, ceased to react with Thresh's reagent. The marc was then thoroughly pressed, and the pressings added to the percolate, the alcohol being recovered therefrom by distillation. The residue was then further evaporated in a porcelain dish over a water-bath, and finally dissolved in the $1\frac{1}{2}$ fl. oz. reserved, enough menstruum being added to make the product measure 3 fl. oz. This product, assayed by the B.P. process, yielded 1.39 gramme of alkaloid per 100 c.c. To yield a product containing 0.75 gramme per 100 c.c., it then only remained to add to the 3 fl. oz. sufficient menstruum to make the product measure $5\frac{1}{2}$ fl. oz. m23.

The powdered root used in the above experiments assayed, by a slight modification of the new B.P. process, yielded 0.532 per cent. of alkaloid.

From this it will be seen that the above process extracted 98.229 per cent. of the total alkaloid actually present in the drug taken, as against 77.994 per cent. by the process of the British Pharmacopœia, 1893.

These experiments were carried out in the private laboratory of Messrs. Hearon, Squire & Francis, Southwark Street, S.E., and I have to thank them for permission to publish the results.

“Pharmaceutical Formulas.”

Price, 7s. 6d.; by post, 8s.

THE binders have, we regret to say, been unable to keep pace with the demand for this book; orders received this week will not be executed until Monday. There will be no further delay.

Will provincial chemists please note that we cannot send the book for inclosure to wholesale houses? If they wish to save the postage, they have only to order the book from one of their wholesale houses. The following firms stock it, and sell it at the net price, 7s. 6d.:—

Allison, E. & H. (Limited), Hull
 Anderson & Co., Edinburgh
 Ayrton & Saunders, Liverpool
 Barclay & Sons (Limited), London
 Bleasdale (Limited), York
 Brown Brothers & Co., Glasgow
 Clay, Dod & Co., Liverpool
 Davidson & Gray, Dundee
 Duncan, Flockhart & Co., Edinburgh
 Edwards, Wm., & Son, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.
 Evans, Lescher & Webb, London
 Evans, Sons & Co., Liverpool
 Fletcher, Fletcher & Co., Holloway, N.
 Ford, Shapland & Co., London
 Fraser & Green, Glasgow
 Glasgow Apothecaries' Company, Glasgow
 Kemp, W., & Son, Horncastle
 Lennon, B. G., & Co. (Limited), London
 Lewis, H. K., 136 Gower Street, W.C.
 Marshalls (Limited), Red Lion Square, W.C.
 May, Roberts & Co., London
 Maw, S., Son & Thompson, London
 Newbery, F., & Sons, London
 Oldfield, Pattinson & Co., Manchester
 Pinkerton, Gibson & Co., Edinburgh
 Potter & Clarke, London
 Raimes, Clark & Co., Edinburgh
 Sanger, J., & Sons, London
 Sutton & Co., Chiswell Street, E.C.
 Wilkinson & Simpson (Limited), Newcastle-on-Tyne
 Woolley, J., Sons & Co. (Limited), Manchester
 Wright, Layman & Umney, Southwark Street, S.E.
 Wyleys (Limited), Coventry

“Pharmaceutical Formulas” is a book of about 700 pages. It differs from most books of recipes in not being confined to the bare formulas. Wherever experience has suggested comments or remarks likely to aid the compounder or to develop a business idea, such remarks are made in a distinctive manner, so that reference to the formulas is not interfered with. There are about 4,000 formulas in the book.

American Pharmacy.

(From Special Correspondents.)

DOCTOR IN PHARMACY.

A PHILADELPHIA correspondent sends us an account of the commencement exercises of the seventy-seventh graduating class of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy. These were held at the American Academy of Music in Philadelphia on April 14, and the occasion was notable by the granting of the new degree of doctor in pharmacy, and the wearing of academic gowns with doctor's hood, the new colour—olive-green—adopted for pharmacy being worn on the hood for the first time.

The degree "Doctor in Pharmacy" was conferred upon eighty-seven graduates who, having had four years of practical experience, and having completed the three years' course of study at the College, had passed successful examinations. The degree "Graduate in Pharmacy" (Ph.G.) was given to the students who finished under the old régime, requiring four years of practical experience and but two years of college work; and the degree of "Pharmaceutical Chemist" was given to those who had completed the entire three years' college work and passed examinations, but who had not had the requisite practical experience.

The valedictory address was delivered by Professor Samuel P. Sadtler, professor of chemistry in the College. He pointed out to the graduates the necessity of continuing their work as students. They had not accumulated a mass of information from which to draw for the rest of their lives. Views held to-day may in a few years appear very inadequate—nay, childish—so rapid is the advance of many branches of human thought. What they had learned was how to work in the years to come, how to use their tools.

The following prizes were awarded:—The John M. Maisch memorial prize of a Zeitmeyer microscope to Gilbert Kent Preston. The William B. Webb memorial prize of a gold medal and certificate to James David King. The gold medal offered by Professor J. P. Remington for an original device or contrivance useful in practical pharmaceutical work to Jacob Franklin Strawinski. Prizes of \$25 in gold for quantitative chemical analysis to Joseph Huntington; \$25 offered by Professor Henry Trimble for a paper involving original chemical work to Charles Walter Dirmitt. Materia medica: prize of \$25 for recognition of rare drugs by the aid of the simple microscope to Andrew Connet Parse. Maisch prize of \$20 for histological knowledge of drugs to Jacob Franklin Strawinski. Operative pharmacy: \$20 in gold given by Professor Joseph P. Remington for the best examination in operative pharmacy to Theodore Storb Schlauch. Theoretical pharmacy: fine agate prescription balance to Joseph Huntington. Robinson chemical prize for best examination in general and analytical chemistry to Joseph Huntington.

Thirteen States were represented by the graduates, and also Canada, Germany, and Russia.

The master of ceremonies was the Dean, Professor Joseph P. Remington, Ph.M., F.C.S., and a pleasing incident was the presence of Mr. Frederick Janson Hanbury, of London, who was heartily greeted by the officers of the College and members of the faculty.

WOESE THAN CRAMMING.

A disgraceful affair happened at the New York College of Pharmacy a day or so previous to an examination held on Monday, April 18. Some of the students of the College, wishing to make sure of passing the examination, bribed a man who has been employed on the premises for some years to obtain the papers from a safe. Fortunately, the scheme was found out in time for the examiners to have an entirely new set of questions printed, so these misguided young men did themselves no good, and the man whom they corrupted lost his position. The majority of the students feel very acutely the disgrace that has been thrown upon the College, and the whole business has been hushed up as much as possible [Surely some one will be prosecuted.—Ed. C. & D.]

DANGEROUS REMEDIES.

The New York press has lately commented upon the indiscriminate way in which patent medicines containing

large quantities of morphine and cocaine are sold, and the medical journals seem inclined to take the matter up, as it is one which gravely affects the public. There are several patent medicines which have enormous sales over here which owe their popularity entirely to the drugs named, and the number of people addicted to the deadly twin habits is quite seriously enough on the increase to necessitate some restrictions being put upon their sale. There are on the market cures for sore throat which contain little else than morphine and cocaine. These, of course, ease pain, but in many cases cause people to become victims to the appetite thus created. It is argued that something in the way of legislation is needed to prevent these insidious drugs being thrown broadcast over the land as they now are, or their evil effects amongst a people so energetic will be shown very plainly as years roll on.

THE NEW YORK DRUG CLERKS' SHOP-HOURS BILL.

I happened to drop into the Mayor's office in the City Hall when he was hearing the pros and cons of the Bill introduced in New York for limiting the working of drug-assistants to ten hours. The room was crowded with druggists and clerks, the German element, as usual, being predominant. I was amused to hear each side putting in the bluffing, while the Mayor sat taking it all in with the air of knowing exactly what the evidence was worth. An assistant stated that employés in the drug business were worse than slaves, and that numerous mistakes were made in dispensing prescriptions through being overworked, and challenged any man in the room to assert that he had never made an error in the course of trade. No one contradicted him. A druggist, speaking against the Bill, remarked that the whole thing was absurd. He employed assistants, and he assured his Honour they had next to nothing to do but read the papers all day long and sell stamps, and so on. No one believes the Bill will become law even if the Mayor signs the document, as the majority of druggists and also the assistants are against it, the more intelligent of the latter dreading a cut in wages and the unavoidable friction which would arise with the employers if the Bill passed.

SODA-FOUNTAIN REVENUE.

As an instance of the importance of a soda-fountain to the New York druggist, the head fountain-man of one of the largest shops tells me they average 20¢ (\$100) a day through the year. Six assistants are kept busy dispensing the different drinks. This seems a big sum, but as the long counter is generally crowded with thirsty souls too deep, and the drinks range from 5c. to 25c. each, I believe the statement may be accepted. One man is employed making the different fruit-flavours and syrups. In all, this fountain, which is a very large one, gives employment to ten men, three of whom are experts in the business. A very refreshing drink they make is composed of a mixture of infusion of tea, lemon-juice freshly expressed, syrup, and soda-water. I can recommend it as a good drink to work on. They call it Russian tea.

Cape Pharmacy and Adulteration.

THE case under the Cape Food and Drugs Act which we reported last week (page 693) has caused a great deal of stir out there, and at least one firm have taken the unusual course of suspending in their pharmacy a notice to the following effect:—

"The preparations of the British Pharmacopœia are manufactured by us according to that work, but are not guaranteed to answer every test.

"All drugs and other articles are sold without any guarantee."

We presume it is because similar notices to this are exhibited by some public-house keepers that some heart-burning has been caused by it, to which expression is given in the following letter by a subscriber (165/11):—

"The assistants in Cape Town and the colony have been recently reminded of the new-born Pharmaceutical Society by a request for subscriptions to its funds. THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is to be our official organ. Until there is an opportunity for discussion at a public meeting, the only

course open for us is to write to our paper. A panic seems to have seized some of the chemists here, owing to the recent prosecutions under the Food and Drugs Act. Two of the leading firms, Messrs. Pocock & Co. and Messrs. Petersen & Co., are affixing labels to B.P. preparations sold over the counter, informing the customer that the article is prepared according to the British Pharmacopoeia, but is sold without a warranty that it will answer the tests of the B.P. In one shop a notice [given above] is placarded in large type. There is a feeling of resentment on the part of the assistants who are called on to stoop so low, and many good firms in the city, in the true spirit of modern pharmacy, decline to countenance such a proceeding. It is an undignified fall, from which the President of the Cape Pharmaceutical Society and member of the Cape Pharmacy Board will find difficulty in recovering. Such action is hardly encouraging to the growth of the infant Society. It is an ironical position for us, advertising that we are incapable of testing the preparations that we have been so zealous of keeping from the hands of the grocer."

Our correspondent in Cape Town has talked with a few of the leading chemists there about the matter. First he went to Messrs. Pocock's establishment and bought 2 oz. of paregoric elixir,* which was labelled:—

TR. CAMPH. CO. : POISON.

J. T. POCKOCK & Co., Wholesale Druggists,
7 Shortmarket Street, Cape Town.

This was an ordinary blank slip, with the name of the article written in. Beneath was another label, worded as follows:—

This article is prepared according to the British Pharmacopoeia process, but is sold without any warranty that it will answer to the tests of the B.P.

Our correspondent then had a chat with Mr. W. F. H. Pocock, who said:—"Yes; it is quite true I am a member of the Pharmacy Board, and I am labelling some of the drugs I send out 'not guaranteed,' just as I labelled your tr. camph. co. I do not want to be brought up before the magistrate like a criminal for selling drugs which, to the best of my belief, are pure, but which have deteriorated or from other causes gone below the standard. Therefore I protect myself. I told the authorities I use a label. I frankly own such a label is a dangerous weapon in the hands of an unprincipled man. But what are we chemists to do? I cannot analyse every drug I get from England to see if it is up to the B.P. I buy the best drugs I can get hold of. What more can a man do 6,000 miles from the source of production? I hold that that label protects me against prosecution under the Act, and I shall continue to use it until the police amend or modify their methods of taking proceedings. Where a man is guilty of adulterating or selling articles knowing full well they are not B.P., then, I say, prosecute." Mr. Pocock concluded the conversation by saying that it was not everybody who could afford to pay a 25*l.* lawyer's bill for 1 oz. of saffron or 4 oz. of spirit of nitrous ether.

Mr. Mathew (of Messrs. Heynes, Mathew & Co.) was the next one called on. He said that his firm had some of the labels printed, but on second thoughts decided not to use them. In his opinion, no notice as to "guarantee" one way or the other is much good in a court of law. "We sell our preparations," he added, "as standardised products, and are prepared to stand by them."

Messrs. P. J. Petersen & Co. were of the opinion that neither labels nor placards were any use in court, although they are using both.

Messrs. B. G. Lennon & Co. (Limited) are holding aloof from these proceedings, as also are a number of retail chemists, who say they are quite willing to sell their drugs

in the ordinary way, without contradictory statements on the label.

There seems no doubt that the authorities who administer the Cape Act are proceeding somewhat vexatiously, but pharmacists, of all people, are those who should be prepared to defend the integrity of the products they sell, and to justify any departure from official requirements. It is upon the basis of their qualification to select and sell pure products that the public are prepared to pay chemists higher prices than they give to hucksters, and the removal of that basis seems to us "bad business."

Business Changes.

Notice of changes in the retail trade, and opening of new businesses, are inserted in this section free of charge, if properly authenticated.

MR. J. A. CENTER, of 25 Ardmillan Terrace, Edinburgh, is removing to new premises at 302 Gorgie Road.

MESSRS. MASON & Co. (LIMITED), chemists and druggists, Durham, are about to remove from 76 to 69 Sadler Street.

MR. J. RITCHIE, of 59 Gorgie Road, Edinburgh, is moving West to 135, after the extensive alterations now going on are completed.

MESSRS. BOOT (LIMITED), cash chemists, have taken premises at 26 Bridge Street, Brow, Stockport, which they will open shortly as a branch.

MESSRS. CHUIT & NAEF, of Geneva, announce that they have admitted into their firm MM. J. Terrisse and Ch. Haccius "en commandite," and that the style of the business is now Chuit, Naef & Co.

MESSRS. BOOT (LIMITED) have removed from their temporary premises at 60 Penny Street, Lancaster, to their new establishment in Jubilee Buildings, corner of Brock Street and Penny Street.

THE drug part of the old-established drug and grocery business carried on for many years by the late Mr. T. Slater at High Street, Stone, has been disposed of to Mr. T. H. Jenkins, chemist and druggist, High Street, Stone.

MESSRS. HEPPELL & Co., English and foreign chemists, have opened new premises at 97 High Street, Southampton, which is only a few doors from the establishment of Mr. Martin, with whom, it may be remembered, they recently contested a Chancery action in reference to a violet perfume.

MR. J. T. DAVY, chemist and druggist, of The Market Square, Witney, has taken Mr. G. Neaves, who has been assisting in the business for some months past, into partnership. The business will now be carried on under the title of Davy & Neaves.

LEGAL authority has been obtained by the trustees under the will of the late Mr. R. H. Besley, printer and stationer, of South Street, Exeter, to sell the business to a company, of which Mr. W. H. Dalglish, now manager for Messrs. J. Townsend & Co., is to be managing-director. The business will be known as Messrs. Besley & Dalglish (Limited).

THE partnership which has existed for the past twenty-five years between Messrs. Heanley and Saunders, chemists, Market Place, Peterborough, has been dissolved. Mr. J. E. Saunders has taken the old-established business in Narrow Bridge Street vacated by Mr. Althorp, who has retired. Mr. M. Heanley and his son, Mr. A. V. Heanley, will carry on the Market Place business.

MR. ALEXANDER LAING, one of the leading spirits of the Glasgow and West of Scotland Pharmaceutical Association, has recently disposed of his business in Great Western Road, Glasgow, and has made arrangements for opening, in the course of the next few weeks, a new pharmacy in Stenhousemuir, a thriving and populous little town about half a mile distant from Larbert Junction, on the main line of the Caledonian Railway.

* Our correspondent has sent us the sample, which we have analysed, and find to have all the characters of tr. camph. co., B.P.—Ed. C. & D.

Westminster Wisdom.

THE PHARMACY BILL—MORE AMENDMENTS.

Mr. Yoxall (West Nottingham) has given notice of amendments to the Pharmacy Bill the effect of which would be to leave membership and associateship of the Society as they are at present, but to provide that associates shall be eligible to be elected on the Council of the Society. The alterations Mr. Yoxall proposes are in Clause 3 of the Bill, which we reprint below, showing the additions suggested by italics:—

Every person who at the time of the passing of this Act shall have been registered as a chemist and druggist, or who shall hereafter become registered as a chemist and druggist, *and who shall be also an associate of the Society*, shall be eligible to be elected a member of the Council of the Society according to the by-laws thereof. *One-third of the total number of the members of the Council shall consist of chemists and druggists who are associates of the Society.*

The last sentence is curious, and is probably not exactly what Mr. Yoxall means. We should have thought it would have been reasonable to limit the proportion of associates to one-third. To insist on one-third of the Council being associates is likely to lead to difficulties. What if seven such associates cannot be got to serve?

Mr. Weir (Ross and Cromarty) has also given notice of an amendment to the student clause in the exact words of one of Mr. Cross's amendments, the object being to entitle the assistants of apothecaries who have served not less than three years at the trade to be entitled to registration as a student-associate.

NO ADULTERATION BILL.

We may confidently abandon any hope of an amended Food and Drugs Bill from the Government this year. On Tuesday Mr. Chaplin received a deputation of persons interested in dairy-products, and spoke very sensibly to them, but showed clearly that he had not as yet arrived at any fixed opinions as to what should go into the Bill which he has so long promised. The promise in the Queen's Speech to introduce such a Bill, he said, was a conditional promise and nothing more, and he could not dictate to the Government what business should be taken. Besides talking about milk and margarine, Mr. Chaplin made the following rather important observations with regard to the proposed Court of Reference. There was no necessity, he said, to go to Parliament in such a matter, as any Minister could appoint such a body for his own guidance or information on any points, if he thought it right or necessary himself. He, however, questioned the wisdom of the policy of the State attempting to fix standards of quality for all kinds of food. What he thought might be done with advantage, was this. It was evidently the intention of the Select Committee that the whole question of fixing a food standard should be further examined by a body of experts. He thought a careful investigation by a competent body of experts was probably desirable, and it was under consideration now.

THE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE AND SHEEP-SCAB.

A deputation from the Sheep Breeders' Association interviewed Mr. Walter Long, at the Board of Agriculture, last week, and asked that the board should take over from the local authorities the control of the regulations to check the extension of sheep-scab. Mr. Long said the information available to his department seemed to show that sheep-scab was diminishing, but the disease was still too prevalent. He would be glad, so far as he could, to use the influence of the Board of Agriculture in bringing such pressure to bear upon local authorities as would awaken them to a sense of their responsibility.

ITCHOL is what Germans call a mixture of lanoline and vaseline of each 420, iodoform 45, glycerine 32, phenol 24, and eucalyptus and lavender oils of each 12—all by weight. Rub the iodoform with the glycerine before mixing with the rest.

Wills of Deceased Chemists.

The will of Mr. Richard Euslus Williams, chemist and druggist, 44 Brook Street, Cardiff, who died on July 22, has been proved by Mr. Chas. Thomas, the sole executor, by whom the testator's personalty is sworn at 1,057*l.* 3*s.* 2*d.* gross, and 903*l.* 17*s.* 5*d.* net.

The will of Mr. F. S. Brain, chemist and druggist, Bury St. Edmunds, who died on November 23, has been proved by his widow, Mrs. Mary Jane Brain, by whom the testator's personalty is sworn at 1,836*l.* 10*s.* 7*d.* gross, and 977*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.* net.

The will of the late Mr. Benjamin Medcalf, chemist and druggist, Ware, has been proved in London by Mrs. Medcalf, the widow, and Mr. Ernest Medcalf, surgeon, the son, by whom the testator's personalty is sworn at 602*l.* 8*s.* 10*d.*, but there is real estate also.

The will of Mr. William Burn, chemist and druggist Durham, who died on July 19, has been proved by Mrs Phyllis Ryott, wife of Mr. H. W. Ryott, of the same city, the daughter and sole executrix of the testator, whose personal estate is sworn at 27*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.*

The will of Mr. Thos. Alfred Strain, chemist and druggist, 223 Upper Allen Street, Sheffield, who died on January 5, is proved by his sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Darnton, the acting executrix of the testator, whose gross estate is sworn at 1,915*l.* 13*s.* 7*d.*; the net personalty amounts to 454*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.*

The will and codicil of Mr. John Taylor, retired chemist, Kendal, who died on August 19 last, have been proved by Mrs. Taylor, Mr. Alfred Taylor, chemist, and Miss Agnes Taylor, the widow, son, and daughter of the testator, whose gross personalty is sworn at 2,003*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.*, and net personalty at 1,978*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*

The will of Mr. Abraham Greaves, chemist and druggist, Brampton, Derbyshire, who died on February 23 last, is proved by Mr. W. S. Greaves and Mr. A. W. Greaves, chemists and druggists, trustees and executors of the testator, whose estate is sworn at 2,692*l.* gross, the net personalty being 1,229*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.*

The Scotch confirmation of the holograph will and testament of the late Mr. James Noble Davidson, pharmaceutical chemist, Dundee, has been sealed in London, and administration of the deceased's estate granted to his widow and executrix, Mrs. Jessie Strachan Clarke, otherwise Davidson. The testator's estate is sworn at 4,223*l.* 14*s.* 4*d.*, of which 2,000*l.* is in England, and the residue in North Britain.

Nobel Window Display.

CONSIDERABLE interest was being evinced by the general public in the neighbourhood of 98 High Holborn on Thursday last as to the reason for the hoarding fixed up round the premises of the Edwards's Harlene Company. A member of our staff was admitted to a "private view" of their new window display. Each window was an exact representation of the show-cards which the company send out to chemists, the figures being represented by life-size mechanical models. In one window a lady was engaged brushing her hair (which, of course, was of unusual length), with a little girl sitting on a chair opposite holding an end and evidently inquiring as to the cause of the length and luxuriance. In the other (which, like the first, is got up to represent a bedroom) a lady is applying Harlene with a sponge to the head of a gentleman sitting in a chair, who, presumably, is her husband, and is certainly in need of a hair-restorer. Questioned as to the intentions of the company in supplying this show to chemists, the Harlene representative said that as each window-display cost him 250*l.*, the orders for Harlene would have to be pretty considerable before they could afford to do that. However, if the show was successful, they might, in course of time, get smaller sizes of these models made for the use of chemists.

Practical Notes and Formulae.

PERMANENT FLOUR-PASTE.

TAKE of wheat-flour 8 oz.; alum, borax, of each, 5j.; boric acid, oil of sassafras, of each, 5ss. Mix in an enamelled-iron pan. Add all at once cold water 8 oz., and whip out all lumps; then add acetic acid 2 oz., and boiling water, all at once, 16 oz. Place over a fire and heat to break the starch globules, indicated by the appearance of a bluish tint and great adhesiveness, stirring constantly to prevent burning. Transfer to a covered jar, and when wanted reduce this with boiling water, about 1 part of paste to 2 of boiling water, adding the water slowly.—J. K. WILLIAMS.

JUDGING CHLORINATED LIME.

PROFESSOR A. B. STEVENS has called the attention of the Michigan Pharmaceutical Association to the fact that many erroneously judge the quality of chlorinated lime by its odour, which is misleading. Several students who adopted that plan rejected packages containing 12 and 14 per cent. of available chlorine, and accepted partially-filled jars the contents of which contained less than 2 per cent. The very strong odour of poor samples of chlorine is accounted for by the fact that it is the decomposed hypochlorite giving free chlorine that produces the odour, and not that in combination. A very little decomposed hypochlorite is sufficient to fill a large jar with a suffocating odour of chlorine. No reliance can be placed upon anything short of a chemical estimation.

CARBOLIC TOOTH-POWDER.

Kaolin	...	...	...	5xij.
Kieselguhr or Dimatos	...	...	...	5iv.
Carbolic acid	...	...	...	5ss.
Powdered ext. quillaia	...	...	...	5j.
Eosin	...	...	...	gr. iij.
Otto of rose (stearoptene-free)	...	...	...	mv.

Dissolve the eosin in 5ij. water and triturate with 2 oz. of kaolin till well mixed. Mix the carbolic acid and otto with the kieselguhr, then mix all the ingredients together and sift.

"PAR EXCELLENCE" HAIR-RESTORER.

Tincture of cantharides	...	...	...	½ oz.
Tincture of cinchona	...	...	...	1 oz.
Glycerine	...	...	...	½ oz.
Rectified spirit	...	...	...	5 oz.
Oil of Cologne	...	...	...	½ dr.
Water to make	...	...	...	16 oz.

Allow to stand over-night and then filter clear through paper.
—*Spatula*.

HAYES'S ASTHMA-REMEDIES.

DR. SCHWEISSINGER informs the *Pharmaceutische Centralhalle* that he has examined the medicines given to the patients of the Asthmatic Institute of Dr. P. Harold Hayes' Associates in Buffalo, and reports them to be as follows:—

T. 1 Q., to be taken at meal-times, is a potassium-iodide mixture, with tincture of orange and a little essence of pear.

T. 2 Q. is also taken at meal-times, and is a solution of potassium-tartrate of iron with senna-leaves.

769 A. C. mixture contains iodides of ammonia, potash, and soda, and is coloured slightly red.

No. 808. Capsules of cinchonine.

No. 781. Cough-emulsion (turpentine emulsion flavoured with peppermint).

No. 739. A plaster resembling thapsia plaster.

No. 763. Small sugar-coated laxative pills.

The doctor gives no quantitative particulars.

CREAM-EMBROCATION.

	Oz.
Oil of sassafras	...
Lard oil	...
Cotton-seed oil	...
Spirit of turpentine	...
Solution of ammonia	...
Oleic acid	...

Mix the acid and the lard and cotton-seed oil. Then add the turpentine and ammonia and shake, lastly adding the oil of sassafras.

The result is a nice white cream-mixture which does not

separate, says the *Spatula*. Essential oil of camphor may, we suggest, be used instead of oil of sassafras.

INDIARUBBER PLASTER.

A FRENCH journal states that "Emplâtre adhésif Américain" may be made according to the following formula:—

Caoutchouc	...	...	...	4
Benzine	...	...	...	16
Huile minérale	...	...	...	3
Colophane	...	...	...	8
Cire du Japon	...	...	...	6

We presume that all the ingredients are to be taken by weight, and a solution of solids made in the liquids. Of course, American indiarubber plasters are not made in this way. See *THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY*, 1898, page 489.

ACETONE AS A SOLVENT.

ACETONE is thought by some to be destined to replace alcohol and ether in many pharmaceutical processes, on account of its cheapness and the ease with which it can be recovered. It has the advantage over ether in being much less volatilisable and less inflammable. Mr. Edward T. Hahn, in a paper before the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, says acetone is specially adapted as a solvent for resinous materials, and that when applied to drugs for the purpose of making official resins it readily penetrated them and made percolation in consequence more rapid than when alcohol was employed. It was found that the yield of jalap resin and podophyllin resin was higher when acetone was used. In the experiments undertaken on similar quantities of material the yield was 1 per cent. greater. Samples of resins prepared by alcohol and acetone were of similar appearance and solubility. Professor Trimble, in the discussion which followed, mentioned that the lacquer used for brasswork is a solution of guncotton in amyl acetate with acetone, petroleum-ether or wood-spirit.

ESTIMATION OF GLYCYRRHIZIN.

ACCORDING to Mr. Alfred Mellor, tobacco-manufacturers are the largest consumers of extract of liquorice. They estimate the glycyrrhizin by the following method: Ten grammes of the extract are dissolved in 100 c.c. of water; 200 c.c. of alcohol are added, and the mixture allowed to stand overnight. Insoluble matter is precipitated and separated by filtration. Sulphuric acid is then added to the filtrate to precipitate the glycyrrhizin.

AROMATIC TOILET-VINEGAR.

Rectified spirit	...	...	...	6 oz.
Oil of bergamot	...	...	...	25 min.
Oil of lemon	...	...	...	25 min.
Oil of orange	...	...	...	10 min.
Oil of rosemary	...	...	...	20 min.
Oil of lavender	...	...	...	3 min.
Oil of melissa	...	...	...	5 min.
Aqueous decoction of 1 dr. each of benzoin, tolu, styrax, and cloves	...	...	...	12 oz.
Vinegar	...	...	...	4 oz.
Acetic acid	...	...	...	1 dr.

Macerate one week and filter.

—*Merck's Report*.

VIOLET-WATER.

Ionone	...	...	...	30 drops.
Distilled water	...	...	...	5 oz.
Orange-flower water	...	...	...	1 oz.
Rose-water	...	...	...	1 oz.
Rectified spirit	...	...	...	8 oz.

Add the ionone to the alcohol and add the waters. Let stand and filter.

—*Merck's Report*.

VIOLET SACHET-POWDER.

Florentine orris	...	...	...	6 oz.
Benzoin	...	...	...	2 oz.
Ess. oil of almonds	...	...	...	2 min.
Ionone	...	...	...	30 min.

Put up in sachet-powder envelopes, with a layer of absorbent cotton to fit the envelope.

—*Merck's Report*.

Trade Report.

Notice to Retail Buyers.

It should be remembered that the quotations in this section are invariably the lowest net cash prices actually paid for large quantities in bulk, and, for crude drugs, without charges. For fuller particulars see the article "Lowest Trade Terms" in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, March 19, 1898, p. 473.

42 CANNON STREET, E.C., May 5.

THE markets have been freer from excitement this week, and the war feeling is ebbing. Good business has been done in several departments, especially in chemicals, and a number of changes have been made in prices, chiefly owing to consumptive demand. The rise in the price of quicksilver and the stringency of supply point to even higher rates, but, so far, medicinal mercurials have not been raised. Quinine is easier in second-hand, and opium is still on the way to an exceptionally firm position. Something is moving in camphor, but there is no decided change at present except for German refined in cakes. Subjoined are the principal movements of the week.

Higher	Firmer	Lower
Acid, citric	Acid, carbolic	Anise (Russian)
Alcohol	Benzols	Camphor
Balsam Peru	Calumba	Cream of tartar
Balsam tolu	Camphor (crude)	Cocoa-butter
Bloodroot	Caraway-seed	Mastic
Canary-seed	Ginger (African)	Oil, star-anise
Cinchona	(Japan)	Quinine (sec. hand)
Cinchonidine	Glucose	Saffron
sulphate	Ipecacuanha	Shellac
Dextrine	Oil, limes	Turpentine
Golden-seal root	Pepper, black	Gum, Kowrie
Jalap	Quillaia	
Lime, acetate		
(brown)		
Oil, castor		
Pepper, white		
Petroleum		
Quicksilver		
Quillaia		
Senega		
Vermilion		
Zinc salts		

AMSTERDAM, May 5, 5.20 P.M.:—At the cinchona-auctions held here to-day 7,086 packages of bark were offered, of which 5,526 packages sold at an average unit for the manufacturing-bark of 520c. per half-kilo. (or slightly under 1*l* per unit), against 425c. paid at the auctions on March 31. The American and English manufacturers bought 4,361-kilos., the Auerbach factory 945 kilos., the Brunswick factory 4,036 kilos., the Mannheim and Amsterdam factories 7,088 kilos., the Frankfort and Stuttgart factories 1,795 kilos., and various other buyers 4,885 kilos. The prices realised for manufacturing-bark ranged from 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ c. to 58c. per half-kilo., and for druggists' bark from 12 $\frac{1}{4}$ c. to 115 $\frac{1}{4}$ c. The tone of the auctions was quiet.

* * * *

BERGEN, May 5, 11 A.M.:—The Finmarken fishing has improved since last week, though it is still poor. The total catch of cod up to date for all districts is 30,887,000, against 47,049,000 last year, and the yield of oil 19,224 barrels, against 25,957 barrels at the corresponding period of 1897. The market is unchanged and quiet at 8*l*s. per barrel f.o.b. Bergen for non-congealing medicinal oil.

* * * *

HAMBURG, May 5, 12.30 P.M.:—To-day's quotations for quinine in second hand is 34*m*. per kilo. Crude camphor has advanced to 237*m*. per 100 kilos., and castor oil of first pressing is also a firmer market at 61*m*., in barrels, on the

spot for immediate delivery. Caraway-seed has also a higher tendency.

* * * *

NEW YORK, May 5, 1.51 P.M.:—The following American drugs show an advance since our last report: Balsam Peru, \$2 20; senega-root, 25c.; golden-seal root (*Hydrastis Canadensis*), 48c.; and bloodroot, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. per lb. Quinine is also an active and higher market at 28c. per oz. Opium firm, at \$3 60 per lb. Petroleum is quoted at \$5.60 per barrel, and in bulk at \$3.10.

* * * *

SMYRNA, May 4, 12 A.M.:—Speculators have again entered the market, but there are few sellers. For current talequale the parity of 10*s*. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d*. per lb., f.o.b. Smyrna, has been paid, and for druggists' 10*s*. 7*d*. per lb.

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The drug-sales of last week are likely to be memorable in the history of the London drug-trade. They were painfully long, and the atmosphere of the place was so thick that it seemed to have lost its mobile power. The room in which the drug-sales are held is on the top floor of the Corn Exchange sale-rooms. They have been held there since the early sixties, when Garway's coffee-house was quitted. The room is in many respects elegant, and contains, among other things, a grand piano, for which some of the buyers have a great affection. There is a compactness about the room which certainly makes it homely, but on occasions like last week the atmosphere of the room becomes positively poisonous; indeed, no one who stayed until 5.8 P.M. last week could boast of leaving it with a clear head. So it is practically settled that the next sales will be held in No. 10 Hall of the Commercial Sale-rooms in Mincing Lane. We had the opportunity of walking over the hall with a well-known broker one day this week, and it seems to us to be well adapted for the purpose. It is an apartment about 50 feet long by 35 feet wide, and is magnificently lighted from each side and also from the top. The pulpit is placed so that it commands a view of every part of the room, and the acoustic properties of the hall are excellent. There are forty tables on the floor, each accommodating three persons, and at various corners are other tables, benches, and chairs, which will provide accommodation for not fewer than 200 persons. The heating arrangements are, as far as we can judge, adequate. No. 10 is approached by a lift, but those who prefer a walk have four good stairs to try. When the removal of the drug-sales from Mark Lane was suggested before, wholesale druggists rather strongly objected, but now, we understand, they have practically acquiesced in the proposal. We are pleased to hear this, because none suffer more from the vitiated atmosphere than reporters of drug-sales, and they are the very persons who should not leave so distinguished an assemblage with a splitting headache.

ACID, CARBOLIC.—Crystals on the spot are offered at 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ *d*. per lb. for 39° to 40° C. and at 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ *d*. for 34° to 35° C. Crude, 60 per cent., 2*s*. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d*. to 2*s*. 2*d*. per gal., 75 per cent., 2*s*. 7*d*. to 2*s*. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d*. Cresylic, 1*s*. per gallon.

ACID, CITRIC.—All makers are now quoting 1*s*. 0 $\frac{3}{4}$ *d*. per lb on the spot, and there are no sellers forward. Concentrated lemon-juice is offered at 11*l*. 5*s*. c.i.f. terms.

ACID, TARTARIC, is firm at 12 $\frac{3}{4}$ *d*. to 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d*. per lb. on the spot for foreign crystals, and 1*s*. 1*d*. for English.

ALCOHOL.—English rectified spirit has advanced by 2*d*. per proof gal., the price now being 11*s*. 10*d*. per proof gal., that is, 18*s*. 8*d*. for 90-per-cent. alcohol. German potato spirit, druggists' quality, is quoted at 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ *d*. per proof gal. in bond without casks. Absolute alcohol is 2*s*. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d*. per lb. duty paid. There has been an exceptional demand for all kinds of spirit owing to pharmacopoeial changes, and this has slightly influenced the stiffening in price. At a meeting of the convention of methylated-spirit manufacturers on Wednesday, it was agreed to advance the price of this spirit to 1*s*. 8*d*. per gal.

BALSAM PERU.—Best quality is being freely bought at 8*s*. 3*d*. per lb.

BALSAM TOLU.—Dearer since last week's sales, good hard full-flavoured balsam having sold at 2*s*. per lb.

BUCHU.—What little stock there is in London is firmly held at 5*l.* per lb. for bright round green leaves.

CALUMBA.—Firmer. For ordinary dull sorts 27*s.* 6*d.* per cwt. is now wanted, which is 2*s.* 6*d.* higher than last week's. Better grades range from 32*s.* upwards.

CAMPHOR.—There appear to be indications of an advance in prices of refined in the not very remote future, and German sublimers have raised the price of tablets slightly, taking 1*s.* 2½*d.* for bells as the basis.

CAMPHOR (CRUDE).—A quiet and dull market, with easier quotations. There are sellers of Chinese for arrival at 82*s.* 6*d.*, and Japanese at 88*s.* per cwt., c.i.f. terms. The arrivals of Japanese camphor at Hong Kong since March 19 amount to 1,071 cases; sales, 750 cases; and stock, 7,200. The total exports to the Continent from January 1 were 4,291 cases; to the United Kingdom, *nil*.

CANNABIS INDICA.—Sales are reported this week at 6*l.* to 6½*l.* per lb. on the spot.

CASCARA SAGRADA.—New bark is firmly held at 19*s.* per cwt. on the spot; or at 25*s.* for old.

CHAMOMILE-FLOWERS.—A fair business has been passing this week in Belgian flowers of last year's harvesting, which have sold at 45*s.* to 47*s.* 6*d.* per cwt., c.i.f. terms. Good yellow to brownish flowers, of 1896 crop, have also sold at 32*s.* 6*d.* per cwt.

CINCHONA.—The following figures represent the exports of Java bark from July 1, 1897, to February 28, 1898, compared with previous years:—

—	1897-98	1896-97	1895-96	1894-95	1893-94
Private plantations (Amst. lbs.)	6,303,985	6,465,516	6,091,203	5,752,957	4,366,426
Government plantations (Amst. lbs.)	450,643	431,406	510,847	531,932	367,382

The April shipments from Java were as follows (the five preceding years and January to April shipments being added for comparison):—

—	1838	1897	1896	1895	1894	1893
Amst. lbs.	856,000	560,000	419,000	615,000	515,000	649,000
April.. ..	856,000	560,000	419,000	615,000	515,000	649,000
January-April	3,212,000	1,984,000	2,492,000	2,477,000	2,388,000	2,530,000

CINCHONIDINE SULPHATE.—Higher, 7½*d.* per oz. now being wanted.

COCAINE.—The manufacturers are less disposed to sell at the reduced rates which have recently ruled, because the supply of the crude alkaloid is below the average, and it is difficult to buy refined hydrochlorate below 9*s.* 5*d.* per oz., this being the bottom price for large contracts, and 10*s.* nominally the first-hand official quotation—if we may use the term.

COCA-BUTTER.—Lower. At the London sales on Tuesday, 80 tons Cadbury's brand sold at 10*l.* down to 9½*l.*, closing at 9½*l.* per lb. These figures mark a decline of ¾*d.* to 5*d.* per lb. At Amsterdam on the same day, 60,000 kilos., Van Houten's make, sold at 49½*c.* to 52*c.*, an average of 51.11*c.* (10¼*d.*), and other brands at substantially the same rate.

CREAM OF TARTAR.—An easier market, lower quotations being received from the centres of production. Best white French crystals are quoted on the spot at 74*s.*, and powder at 76*s.* to 78*s.* per cwt.

CUBEBS have been quiet since the lower prices paid at the auctions last week. The February shipments from Java amounted to 25 piculs. The exports from July 1 to February 28, 1898, were:—

Piculs	1897-8	1896-7	1895-6	1894-5	1893-4
...	4,985	907	2,608	1,667	933

DEXTRIN.—Dearer in common with all amylaceous products; 19*s.* per cwt. is the present price.

GENTIAN-ROOT.—Business has recently been done at 18*s.* 6*d.* to 19*s.* per cwt. f.o.b. for whole root.

GLYCERIN.—There has been more inquiry during the past ten days in the expectation that a rise in values is imminent. At present, however, there is no quotable change for re-distilled.

GOLDEN-SEAL ROOT (*Hydrastis Canadensis*) is firmer, at 2*s.* to 2*s.* 1*d.* per lb. on the spot. The New York market is advancing.

GUM ACACIA.—First qualities are reported to be somewhat scarce in London, and business has been done this week in fine picked Trieste at 15*l.* per cwt.

GUMS, VARNISH.—At the auctions on Thursday moderate supplies were offered, and about one-third sold at a decline of 2*s.* 6*d.* to 5*s.* Copal was slow of sale, and fine Damar brought high prices.

INSECT FLOWERS.—The stock of Dalmatian flowers at Trieste on April 30 was 293,500 kilos., compared with 318,500 kilos. in March. The receipts at that port in April amounted to 25,000 kilos., and the deliveries to 50,000 kilos. From 43*s.* to 44*s.* is asked for open flowers; 57*s.* 6*d.* to 76*s.* for half open; 103*s.* to 110*s.* for closed, and 127*s.* to 131*s.* per cwt. for "wild" flowers, all f.o.b. Trieste. The London market is quiet, and prices are not likely to improve if the Spanish-American war continues.

IPECACUANHA.—Business was done in Rio at the beginning of the week at 8*s.* 9*d.* to 8*s.* 10*d.* per lb., but 9*s.* has since been asked, and it would be difficult to get fair quality at less than that figure. There is nothing doing in Cartagena.

IRISH MOSS is in small supply, and the stock of common is selling in retail quantities at full prices.

JALAP.—Sales are reported this week at 6*l.* to 6½*l.* per lb. on the spot for sound tubers, which marks a slight advance on the price paid at the sales last week.

MASTIC.—Good pale tear is in fair supply, and offered at from 1*s.* 6*d.* to 1*s.* 10*d.* per lb. Small sales have been made in the finest quality at the latter figure.

OIL, CASTOR, dearer. French first pressing is 28*s.* 6*d.* per cwt., second 26*s.* 6*d.*, and medicinal in tins 38*s.* 6*d.* It is expected that it will go still higher, as there is little to be had, and holders do not care to sell. Italian tasteless medicinal is 41*s.* per cwt., c.i.f. British manufacture is also firm, with no sellers for forward delivery. Firsts are offered at 30*s.* per cwt. in barrels, or 3½*d.* per lb. in cases and tins; seconds, at 29*s.* and 3¼*d.* respectively; cold-drawn pharmaceutical quality, 4½*d.* per lb. in cases and tins.

OIL, COD-LIVER.—Business is at a standstill, and dealers confirm our last week's view that little more is to be done until the end of the summer. There is no quotable change in price. Our Bergen correspondent, writing on April 30, states that up to April 26 the catch of cod at Finmarken was 900,000, or sufficient to yield 264 barrels of medicinal oil, compared with 1,500,000 fish and 555 barrels in 1897 and 5,900,000 fish with 2,770 barrels in 1896. In spite of this extremely poor yield, the Bergen market is very quiet, and it looks as if no change in either direction will occur until towards the end of the present month; 81*s.*, f.o.b., is still the Bergen price. The exports up to the end of April amounted to 3,479 barrels, against 2,599 barrels in the first four months of 1897.

OIL, LIMES.—Distilled West Indian oil of good quality is firmly held at from 3*s.* 6*d.* to 4*s.* per lb. according to holder. Some dealers anticipate higher prices in consequence of the Hispano-American war.

OIL, LEMON, is ridiculously cheap just now, and medium quality can be bought at 2*s.* 11*d.* per lb. The general range of quotations, however, for guaranteed oil is from 3*s.* 3*d.* to 4*s.* per lb., f.o.b., nominally; but there is an absence of business.

OIL, OLIVE.—The prospect of the olive-crop in Italy, according to the latest accounts, is not at all good, owing to the unfavourable weather. There has been a good demand this week for Italian and Spanish oils; the latter is quoted at 32*s.* 6*d.* to 33*s.* per cwt. The same quotations apply to Levant oil. During the month of March 3,268 quintals (1 qu. = 101½ lbs.) of olive oil were exported from Leghorn, and of this a little more than half—viz., 1,875 quintals were

sent to this country. The importation of Spanish oil into Italy has stopped. H.M. Consul at Trieste reports the olive oil crop for 1897 a failure in Dalmatia as well as in Albania. In consequence of this scarcity olive oil was imported from Malaga. It appears that olive oil blended with cotton oil is largely consumed as a food in the interior of Austro-Hungary and the Balkan States.

OIL, ORANGE.—Is firmly held at 8s. per lb. f.o.b. for finest brands, though it is possible to get fair quality under this figure. Stocks both here and in Italy are low. The Hispano-American war has not up to the present interfered with the direct shipments of Sicilian oils to the United States, and our information points to the fact that business relations will not be disturbed.

OIL, PEPPERMINT.—Japanese dementholised is quiet and unchanged at 4s. per lb., and the same may be said of American HGH, which is offered at 5s. 7½d. per lb.

OIL, RAPE.—Quiet, and with an easier tendency. On the spot 23s. 6d. to 24s. per cwt. is quoted for ordinary brown. Refined, 25s. to 25s. 6d. on the spot, and Ravison, 19s. to 19s. 6d. The exports of rape-seed from the Black Sea port of Novorossik show a considerable decrease, the figures being: 1897, 3,368 tons; 1896, 25,229 tons.

OIL, ROSEMARY.—Best French oil is offered at 3s. to 3s. 3d. per lb. on the spot.

OIL, SPIKE LAVENDER.—As recently reported, this oil is scarce so far as contract orders for two-ton lots are concerned, although small orders can be supplied with little difficulty. Prices vary from 1s. 5d. per lb. upwards. For good old oil, 1s. 10d. is wanted for cwt. lots.

OIL, STAR-ANISE.—Has an easier tendency, with buyers at 6s. per lb., c.i.f., for May-June delivery. Stock in Hong Kong, 200 piculs.

OPIMUM.—Still higher. Good Persian has been sold in London this week at 10s. 6d. to 10s. 9d. per lb., but there is little left now. Business has also been done in Current at 10s. per lb. The general opinion is that the stock in Great Britain is only about 650 cases, of which from one-third to one-half has been sold. Our Smyrna correspondent, writing on April 26, states that since his last report news has come from the interior complaining very much of the drought, and that most of the opium sown since March 15 has not taken root owing to the dryness of the season. Farmers, seeing that there is now no hope of the seed taking effect, are everywhere ploughing up the ground again and sowing other produce. This, coupled with the damage caused by frost, will leave a diminutive crop this year. Speculators quite besieged the market, but sellers were equal to the occasion. Only 10 cases were secured, at the equivalent of 10s. per lb. for Yerli and 9s. 5d. to 9s. 7d. for current and Karahissar tale quale. The arrivals up to date were 3,535 cases, against 2,372 cases at the corresponding period of last year. From Constantinople, under date of April 29, we hear that the drought continues, and opium is daily rising. No doubt now remains that the crop will be one of the smallest on record, certainly under 3,000 cases. The position of the article is therefore very strong, as consuming centres are practically bare of stock. The sales during the past six or seven days amount to about 80 cases, at up to 10s., f.o.b., for soft shipping containing 30 to 40 per cent. firsts, and up to 9s. 6d., f.o.b., for druggists'. Sellers are now scarce, and business difficult to transact.

ORRIS is firm, but quiet. The following are the prices asked this week:—Florentine, extra picked, 38s. to 38s. 6d.; sorts, 33s. 6d. to 35s., c.i.f., according to holder; Verona, from 23s. to 24s. 6d. per cwt., as to quality.

PEARLASH.—First Montreal potashes have been in fair inquiry lately, and quotations are rather in buyers' favour at 19s. per cwt. Pearl are slow of sale, and worth about 35s. to 37s. 6d. per cwt. nominally.

PHENAZONE.—A rumour that the convention had advanced the price still further to 29s. is groundless. It remains at 22s., but can be bought, it is said, outside the "ring" freely at 21s. per lb.

PETROLEUM.—A strong market with an increasing demand. American on the spot is now quoted at 4½d. per gallon, and

water-white at 5½d.; Russian at 4½d. and forward delivery at 4½d.

POTASH PERMANGANATE.—We hear that the experiments in the use of potassium permanganate along with potassium cyanide in gold-mining are likely to turn out successfully, and manufacturers are arranging to meet any sudden demand which may arise. There is so little profit in the article at present that a reduction in price could not be made, although the output were very much increased.

QUICKSILVER.—On Monday afternoon second-hand holders came up to the level of Rothschild's price—7l. 1s. 3d. per bottle—and on Tuesday morning Messrs. Rothschild raised their price to 7l. 7s. 6d., and second-hand holders to 7l. 7s. Only orders for small quantities are accepted by brokers, who must refer to their principals before accepting instructions for large contracts. The stock in second hand is believed to be low. Manufacturers of mercurials have agreed not to raise their prices until the next rise in quicksilver, which, considering all the circumstances, is likely to take place soon. Vermilion, however, has been raised 1d. per lb., the present quotations being 2s. 2½d. per lb. for 30-lb. lots, 2s. 1d. for 150, and 2s. for 300 lbs. and upwards.

QUININE.—The manufacturers will decide after the Amsterdam auctions to-day upon the new selling price. They have not been doing business this week, but second-hand holders have been selling very freely, some 60,000 ozs. having changed hands at 12d. to 12½d. per oz., while some holders wanted 12½d., but on Wednesday the offers were easier, and we heard of one at 11½d. The tendency of the week has been decidedly lower than last week, because many holders at high values think this a favourable opportunity for realising, and in consequence there is a greater disposition to unload. Pelletier's brand is quoted at 1s. 4d. per oz., and Messrs. Howards & Sons intimated on April 28 that in the present uncertain state of the market they could no longer book orders for forward delivery, nor can, until further notice, make the usual concession in the price for large quantities. To-day we learn that 12d. was paid for a 5,000-oz. lot. Forty-eight cases of quinine were shipped from Java during February, 34 of which were shipped to the United Kingdom and the remainder to Amsterdam. The total number of cases shipped from Java from July 1, 1897, to January 31, 1898, was 119 cases.

SAFFRON is 1s. 6d. per lb. cheaper. This seems ridiculous, considering the shrunken stock, but the reduction is solely due to the extraordinary condition of the Spanish exchange, which is very low [46 pesetas (= 9½d.) to 1l.], and all kinds of Spanish produce are selling at lower prices.

SCAMMONIUM.—Since the drug-sales last week a small business is reported at 30s. per lb. for firsts, and 20s. for seconds. "Skillee" is very quiet, and the same applies to scammony-root, which is nominally offered at 27s. 6d. per cwt.

SEEDS.—The movement in *Canary-seed* continues, and a further rise has been established. Large sales have been made at 26s. to 27s. 6d. per qr. for Turkish, and at 30s. to 32s. for good to fine Barbary. No change in *Coriander*, sales are being made at last quotation. *Fenugreek* and *Cumin* also steady, with business doing at late rates. Some parcels of fine Mediterranean *Linseed* have changed hands at 42s. per qr.

SENNA.—There has been a fair inquiry for both Alexandrian and Tinnevely senna this week, and for good green whole leaf of latter descriptions 6½d. per lb. has been paid; one holder is now asking 7d. A good deal of the Tinnevely ex last sale has changed hands this week at a profit, and inquiries from America still come to hand.

SENEGA.—In common with most American drugs, is firmer this week, and 1s. 2d. to 1s. 3d. per lb. is asked on the spot. The c.i.f. price is 1s. 0½d.

SHELLAC.—At the fortnightly auctions on Tuesday only 755 cases were offered, of which 129 sold. A quiet tone prevailed, second orange being about 1s. per cwt. easier, fair TN being now quoted at 60s., and AC Garnet at 70s. The following prices were paid:—Good pale but cakey second orange SG, in diamond, 71s. to 72s.; fair to good bright reddish, 61s to 62s.; and ordinary flat reddish, 59s. Garnet: fair ruby, 60s. to 61s.; common ditto, 58s.; Button, firsts,

73s.: blocky firsts, 66s.; and thirds 55s. per cwt. The shipments from Calcutta for April were 8 000 cwt. against 11,500 cwt. last year, and to the United States 6,703 cwt. against 7,600 cwt. last year. To the Continent the shipments were 4 500 cwt. against 7,000 cwt. Since the auctions moderate sales have been made on the spot at 60s. for second orange. There are sellers of TN for arrival, April-June steamer, at 59s. 6d. per cwt., and August delivery at 63s. 6d. c.i.f.

SPICES have been firm, with not much business passing, the attention of the trade being taken up with *Tapioca*, in the various qualities of which article a large general and speculative business has been done at dearer rates than have been paid for a long time. At the public sales last Wednesday Cochin *Ginger* was dull, and only a few lots sold; bold cut at 82s. 6d.; medium at 58s. to 64s.; and 20 bags good washed rough at 24s. 6d. per cwt. Japan rather dearer, 50 bags fair-limed rough sold at 18s. per cwt. Jamaica again met with good competition, and realised steady rates, in some cases dearer. Rhatoon 68s. to 75s.; ordinary dull to middling, 77s. to 89s.; fair to good washed 90s. to 106s. per cwt. Zanzibar *Cloves* firmer for delivery, but transactions are small, June-August sold at 3¹/₁₀d. per lb.; none offered at auction. A few cases fine bright Penang realised 10¹/₁₀d. per lb. Japan *Chillies* were in good supply, but none sold. A small lot of Natal *Capsicums* brought 76s. per cwt. *Nutmegs* and *Mace* dull. *Pimento* rather easier, fair quality sold at 4³/₁₀d. per lb. *Pepper* firmer for black, and dearer for white, Singapore black sold to arrive at 4³/₁₀d. per lb. for June-August shipment, and at 4¹/₁₀d. to 4³/₁₀d. on the spot. For Singapore white 8¹/₁₀d. has been paid for distant shipment; the parcels offered at auction were bought in, as were also the Penang. Business has been done at 6¹/₁₀d. for Penang to arrive, and at 6⁹/₁₀d. on the spot. *Cinnamon* sold at 10³/₁₀d. per lb. for pieces; at 9³/₁₀d. for quillings, and at 3d. to 3³/₁₀d. per lb. for fair to bold bright chips. The imports of Ceylon cinnamon to March 31 were 1,500 bales, deliveries 3,012 bales, and stocks 3,555 bales. *Cassia-lignea*, further sales at 51s. 6d. per cwt.

SUGAR OF LEAD.—A good business is reported at the recent advance—viz., 26l. 10s. per ton for 5-ton quantities, and a further advance is expected.

SULPHUR.—A cock and bull story comes from the other side of the Atlantic, to the effect that the numerous editions of the daily papers there had exhausted the supply of low-priced wood-pulp paper, in the manufacture of which, they say, sulphur is used. The hardening of prices is, however, due to higher freights. Our inquiries show that there is no difficulty in supplying, and that Italy has practically come to an arrangement with Spain whereby Sicilian sulphur will be obtained as freely as heretofore.

TEA.—The tea-market has been a little perturbed during the last few weeks by the operations of a big packet firm in preparation for a recent sensational duty-payment, which has been duly advertised in the papers. A broker came into the first three or four sales after Easter, and bought many thousands of chests on this account each day, and for a time greatly perplexed the market as to the object and destination of his purchases. The effect is, of course, to lock up a considerable quantity of tea for some time, and with good Indian deliveries and a prospect of not quite such heavy Ceylon sales during May as were expected, the market for common to fair medium tea, Ceylon and Indian, is quite ¹/₄d. to ³/₄d. dearer.

TURPENTINE.—About 1s. 6l. per cwt. lower since our last report. American is now offered on the spot at 25s. 3d., May delivery at 24s. 9d., and June at 23s. 6d. per cwt.

WAX, JAPAN.—Good pale squares are quiet on the spot at 35s. 6d. per cwt., or at 33s. 6d. to 35s. 6d., c.i.f., for forward delivery.

Heavy Chemicals.

A fairly steady and moderate business is passing in the heavy-chemical market, but there are not many changes of particular importance to be reported this week. A somewhat heavier demand is being experienced from home consumers, and shipments, although showing a decrease to some parts, are, on the whole, moderately satisfactory. Paper-

makers are well employed, and the demand is also better from calico-printers and dyers. Bleachers are also fairly brisk. Manure-manufacturers are also busy, as is usual at this time of the year, whilst the tar-product market still continues in a depressed condition. Lead and Copper products have an advancing tendency, and the same remark applies to Brown acetate of lime and some Baryta compounds. Chlorates of potash and Soda are very dull, but Prussiates continue firm. Bleaching-powder is rather quiet. Caustic soda quietly steady. Business in Sulphate of ammonia is heavier, but values, although a trifle steadier during the past day or two, show no distinct improvement. Present quotations are: Beckton terms, prompt, 8l. 9s. 9d.; Beckton, 8l. 11s. 3d.; Leith and Hull, 8l. 11s. 3d.; London, 8l. 12s. 6d. to 8l. 15s. Exports from Leith last week amounted to 665 tons. English red lead now stands at 17l., and White lead at 19l. Paint is quoted 23l. Acetate of lead: English white, 27l. 10s., and foreign about 26l. Brown acetate of lead, 19l. 10s., and Nitrate of lead, 21l. 5s. Brown acetate of lime has now advanced to 6l. to 6l. 5s., c.i.f. Green copperas is in good demand, and the Lancashire makers are very busy, owing to the scarcity of the Welsh product; best Lancashire is now quoted 38s. f.o.b. Liverpool. Sulphate of copper remains nominally, Anchor, 17l.; and Liverpool, 16l. 10s.—with maker's price, 17l. Sulphocyanides continue dull; Barium, 95 per cent., 4d.; Ammonium, 95 per cent., 5¹/₄d. to 5³/₄d.; and Potassium, 6³/₄d. South Durham salt is moving steadily at 9s. to 9s. 3d. per ton f.o.b. Tees. Recovered sulphur is firm. Zinc salts are higher, as are also Linseed and Cottonseed cakes; all cakes, in fact, being at present very firm.

The Hamburg Drug-market.

Our Hamburg correspondent writes on May 3 that the drug-market is quiet with few alterations. *Cope aloes* remains firm, at 54m. per 100 kilos. *Russian aniseed* is quiet and lower, at 37m. to 36m. per 100 kilos. *Star aniseed* firm, at 230m. per 100 kilos. for spot delivery. *Balsam tolu* quiet, at 300m. per 100 kilos. *Refined camphor* shows very little business; to-day's quotation is 240m. per 100 kilos. *Condurango-bark* is firm at 48n. per 100 kilos. *Cascara-sagrada* is slow of sale at 36m. per 100 kilos. *Cocaine* dull at 300m. per kilo. *Maltese cumin-seed* is steady at 38m. to 40m. per 100 kilos. *Ceradilla-seed* quiet; prices favour buyers at 76m. per 100 kilos. *Galangal* shows a firm market at 45m. per 100 kilos. *Menthol* is quiet at 15m. per kilo. *Opium* remains firm at 19m. to 20m. per kilo. *Quinine* fluctuated very much last week, in consequence of large purchases made for America; the factories ask to-day 34m. per kilo. *Quillaia-bark* is firmer at 40m. per 100 kilos. *Spermaceti* is quiet, on the spot, at 265m.; forward shipment 260m. per 100 kilos. *Tamarinds* are scarce, and firmly held, at 46m. per 100 kilos. *Ipecacuanha* is firmer; for Rio root, 18m. to 20m. per kilo. is now asked. *Sarsaparilla* is also firm, with an upward tendency.

The Liverpool Drug-market.

Our Liverpool correspondent, writing on May 4, reports that the market for *Castor oil* eased off a little in consequence of the heavy arrivals per the s.s. *Wanderer*, but has since stiffened up considerably, and the week closes with good seconds Calcutta at 3³/₁₀d. to 3¹/₄d. per lb., and first pressure French at 3¹/₄d. per lb. and second pressure 3¹/₄d. per lb. The market to arrive is hardening daily in consequence of strong reports from the producing-districts. Twenty-five bags of dried West African *Kola-nuts* sold from the quay at 1¹/₄d. per lb. There is little movement in Sierra Leone *Chillies*, the business being restricted by the paucity of supplies of good grades, and late rates are fully maintained. Several thousand bags of Turkish *Canary-seed* have been sold during the past seven days, marking an awakening from a long period of repose in this article, and the prices realised have risen from 26s. 6d. to 30s., and now holders are talking of 30s. to 32s. per quarter for good bright seed. A parcel of 10 packages *Colocynth* were sold on arrival on private terms. *Spirits of turpentine* has followed the movement in many North American articles, and, during the last few days, has risen to 28s. per cwt., with holders inclined to sell very sparingly. *Chilian beeswax* is selling very slowly at the recent advance, but importers are very firm in their views, and show no signs of meeting buyers' views.

London Drug Statistics.

THE following statistics relate to the receipts and deliveries of some of the leading drugs from and into the London public warehouses from January 31, 1898, to April 30, and to the stocks on April 30. Their accuracy cannot be guaranteed.

Article	Stocks		Imported		Delivered	
	1898	1897	1898	1897	1898	1897
Aloes.....cs, &c.	2,566	2,828	704	557	789	1,770
".....gourds	3,512	1,832	1,095	—	181	124
Anise, Star.....cs	36	187	50	101	53	37
Arrowroot.....bri	11,192	11,323	6,119	4,880	4,090	5,302
".....bxs & tns	1,189	2,664	248	156	445	393
Balsam.....cs, &c.	713	461	807	112	522	437
Calumba.....bgs	88	85	131	263	65	119
Camphor.....pkgs	10,259	11,032	955	2,530	2,154	3,530
Cardamoms.....cs, &c.	1,544	1,049	2,524	1,539	1,259	943
Cinchona-bark :—						
S. American.....cs	54	54	—	—	—	2
".....bbs, &c.	12,149	13,439	1,459	1,155	1,266	1,542
E. I., Ceylon, { cs	432	300	166	25	81	33
and Java { bbs	8,783	7,349	9,754	2,463	5,082	3,116
Cocculus Ind....	35	55	—	—	—	17
Cochineal.....bgs	2,515	2,166	777	232	781	763
Cubeb.....bgs	1,938	311	1,533	33	34	192
Dragons' blood.....cs	26	43	33	29	69	45
Galls—						
China and Jap. cs	1,221	515	889	21	208	589
Key- & Prsn. bgs	2,797	3,915	1,055	1,579	1,469	3,121
Gums—						
Ammoniacum pkgs	32	38	7	3	4	4
Animi & copal ..	19,109	18,653	11,247	15,763	12,886	12,029
Arabic (all desc.),	9,641	11,228	5,391	8,012	8,239	9,749
Asafetida ..	544	529	366	541	312	23
Benzoin ..	2,891	2,883	1,976	1,011	1,458	1,531
Damar ..	3,359	3,353	1,557	1,384	2,060	1,780
Galbanum ..	—	1	1	—	1	—
Gamboge ..	265	163	53	79	83	93
Guaiacum ..	69	79	28	39	25	10
Kino ..	39	31	24	19	8	5
Kowrie ..tons	444	936	635	1,120	956	1,237
Mastic	18	15	2	5	14	2
Myrrh, E.I. ..	466	539	6	88	96	121
Olibanum ..	2,415	2,462	2,923	2,081	1,458	2,037
Saudarac ..	992	843	533	355	386	409
Tragacanth ..	3,224	3,630	3,025	2,350	2,524	2,776
Ipecacuanha, Rio bbs	229	366	188	178	193	259
" other kinds pkgs	57	64	74	97	43	54
Jalap	357	242	16	71	41	135
Nux vomica .. pkgs	114	576	69	168	84	115
Oils—						
Anise.....cs	121	102	—	110	20	53
Cassia	113	84	10	110	28	46
Castor.....cks	110	169	334	456	285	499
".....cs	431	521	314	94	315	378
Cocoa-nut .. tons	271	417	471	483	360	409
Olive	1,051	868	1,001	413	596	704
Palm	15	5	5	6	11	16
Quinine sulphate bbs	92,239	84,331	23,597	11,166	20,562	14,783
Rhubarb	614	254	220	146	516	353
Safflower—						
Bengal .. bbs, &c.	231	157	41	43	15	34
Salt-petre—						
Nitrate potass tons	911	1,817	1,942	1,553	1,743	1,957
Nitrate soda ..	2,500	1,491	13,261	9,441	12,477	8,324
Sarsaparilla	356	231	285	283	353	312
Senna	674	1,407	1,064	375	1,747	1,772
Shellac—						
Button	6,565	7,164	3,064	4,577	3,265	3,332
Garnet	5,944	5,769	3,126	3,645	2,115	2,123
Orange	47,642	35,889	17,069	24,403	9,675	14,027
Sticklac	2,261	3,403	412	1,039	1,196	655
Turmeric—						
Bengal.....tons	137	466	8	16	45	76
Madras, Cochin,						
&c.....tons	148	308	51	15	47	88
Wax—						
(Bees') bbs & snbs	440	548	559	556	783	418
".....cks & cs	1,122	1,043	1,95	1,169	1,321	1,090
(Japan) .. cs, &c.	427	169	483	144	292	154

A DURSLEY correspondent sends us some conundrums, some of which we give up. There are: "4*℥*. Tups and larte Titi." "Oil of Angenteir $\frac{1}{2}$ oz., and Oil of tertintine $\frac{1}{2}$ oz., with Mericet acid $\frac{1}{4}$ oz." "6*℥*. oilarper, 3*d*. oilroda, 3*d*. folstaung."

EMBARRAS DES RICHESSES.—"Wilts" sends an order he has received for "6 penny worth either castro asafetida, or galbanum and iron, mercury, aloes hellebore, iodine, ergot of rye which you think the strongest please pack secure from young man."

Commercial Notes.

ARGENTINE TRADE.

The imports of chemical and pharmaceutical goods to the Argentine Republic during 1897 show an increase of \$293,345, although in nearly every other branch of trade there is a general decrease. The 1897 linseed-crop, which at one time promised to be a record one for the River Plate, suffered considerably from frost, because whereas at one time the crop was estimated to produce some 300,000 tons for export, the estimates are now reduced to 120,000 tons.

HONEY, WAX, AND SULPHUR.

Reporting on the trade of Ancona, Italy, Vice-Consul Tomassini states that during 1897, 600 tons of honey and about 350 tons of beeswax were produced and disposed of at an average price of 58*s.* per 220 lbs. for the former and 11*ℓ*. 10*s.* for the latter. The same report states that a few years ago a German syndicate commenced to search for sulphur near Sassoferato, Ancona, and after meeting with great difficulties their efforts have now succeeded. The mine is known as the "Azi-nda Solifera Italia," and last year produced 40,000 tons of sulphur, which was entirely disposed of in Italy. The imports of chemicals to Ancona amounted to 2,738 tons in 1897, of which 926 tons were received from Great Britain and the remainder from Austria-Hungary and Germany. They consisted of acids, alkali, sulphates, and oxides.

SAMOAN TRADE.

British imports to Samoa declined by 234*℥*. in 1897, whereas in 1896 the imports from Great Britain and the colonies amounted to almost two-thirds of the total imports entering Samoa. Germany, on the other hand, sent goods to the value of 6,868*℥*. As an example of what the Germans are doing there, we quote the following from the British Consul's report:—

A high-class German commercial traveller has recently visited Samoa with excellent samples at really marvellously cheap prices, and obtained 2,000*℥*. worth of orders mainly from British traders. He will be three years absent from Germany, and is now visiting the colonies. At each colony there awaits him a completely new and different set of samples suited to the particular colony, and he anticipates doing a very large business. The goods are described to me as being of excellent quality, appearance, and finish, while the buyer's wishes as to special labels, trade-marks, lengths, widths, trade terms and commission are readily acceded to and carried out.

Cheap perfumery is in fair demand in Samoa, although Atkinson's, Piesse & Lubin's, and Breidenbach's are to be met with. There is also a considerable sale for Epsom salts and patent medicines. English and colonial brands of white lead and paint hold their own in the island, and are said to be much superior to the American and German brands.

CONGO TRADE.

The annual report of the Congo Free State to the King of the Belgians, which has just been published, contains full particulars of the exports and imports of the colony. Among the exports are the following:—Indiarubber shows a total export amounting to 1,785,378 kilos., valued at 8,926,890*℥*.; copal exports amounted to 53,825 kilos. of the white variety and 45 kilos. of the red, the value being 91,610*℥*. Palm oil reached 1,334,870 kilos., value 694,132*℥*. The Portuguese possessions bought two-thirds of this, and Great Britain 216,339 kilos. The exports of kola-nuts were 4,791 kilos., valued at 7,186*℥*. No less than 3,446 kilos. of the kola were sent to Germany. Among the imports we observe:—Colours, varnishes, and paints, valued at 48,878*℥*.; drugs, 63,722*℥*.; chemicals, 10,063*℥*.; pharmaceutical products, 142,072*℥*.; soaps, 41,848*℥*. Naturally, Belgium does the bulk of the trade with the Congo, but in many cases Great Britain comes in a respectable second; for example, it supplied 10 per cent. of the colours, &c., and 97*℥*. worth of pharmaceutical products, this being the next highest figure to Belgium's 113,684*℥*. In soaps this country leads the way with 13,571*℥*, compared with Belgium 12,860*℥*. Our trade in chemicals with the colony is small—viz., 697*℥*. worth, compared with 9,239*℥*. from Belgium.

Correspondence

In writing letters for publication correspondents should adopt a concise, but not abbreviated, style. They are requested to write on one side of the paper only. Letters, with or without a nom-de-plume, must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer. Queries should be written on separate pieces of paper, and the regulations printed under the sections to which they apply should be strictly observed.

Notice to Correspondents.

"Pharmaceutical Formulas."

SIR,—The book is a perfect marvel of information, and will be a Klondyke to every chemist who invests 7s. 6d. in its acquisition. I don't think any more valuable book has appeared since the famous "Gray's Supplement" of our youth.

Holloway, N., April 29.

FRED. W. FLETCHER.

SIR,—Your book of "Pharmaceutical Formulas" to hand this morning. I consider it a most useful book for counter-reference, well got up, and should find a place in every pharmacy.

Talgarth.

JOHN PARRY.

SIR,—A preliminary perusal of "Pharmaceutical Formulas" is convincing as to the value and general usefulness of the work. "It comes as a boon and a blessing." Good formulas are ever in demand, but those forthcoming very frequently lack either quality or detail of manipulation, and the resulting preparation becomes a cause for disappointment and discouragement. Hence the author of this new formula is to be congratulated on pointing out the pitfalls and difficulties to be looked for and the way to avoid or overcome them. The draft labels and notes on how to put up and "push" the articles must be of value to both the enterprising and the faltering. Several of the formulas which have appeared in the *C. & D.* I have already tried with much satisfaction, and therefore anticipate finding the new volume both useful and reliable.

Yours truly,

COUMARIN. (84/80.)

SIR,—I am very pleased with "Pharmaceutical Formulas." I consider it a publication which will be much appreciated, and will be invaluable to the busy pharmacist. The compact index is most complete; the whole book contains a mine of useful and practical information.

Yours truly,

St. Partholomew's Hospital, J. LANGFORD MOORE.
May 4.

Company Pharmacy.

SIR,—I notice with pleasure in your issue of this week that the British Medical Association has consented to co-operate with the Pharmaceutical Societies of Great Britain and Ireland to have the company question, as far as it relates to pharmacy and dentistry, settled by remedying the glaring deficiencies existing in the Pharmacy and Dentists Acts. As there is even a distant possibility of legislation in this direction, it behoves every pharmaceutical chemist and chemist and druggist in Great Britain and Ireland to render all possible aid, financial and otherwise, both to the Pharmaceutical Societies and the British Medical Association. I would suggest that a committee of both Societies be appointed immediately to confer with the Council of the Medical Association as to the best means of attaining the end in view. Also that a subscription-list be opened to which every chemist or chemist and druggist who wishes to remove the grievances under which he has so long laboured should contribute consistently with his means. Each member of the trade should secure the support of his parliamentary representative by personal interview or letter. United action alone would outweigh the powerful opposition which such a legislative measure would meet in Parliament. In conclusion, I think the thanks of everyone connected with legitimate pharmacy are due to the two eminent members of the medical profession, Mr. Victor Horsley and

Dr. John W. Moore, for their kindness in supporting this matter at the meeting of the Medical Association. Dr. John W. Moore is well known and esteemed by Dublin pharmacists. He was on the Board of Examiners of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland some years ago.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

SEMPER PARATUS PERICULO. (166/10)

Dublin, April 30.

Phenacetine-Bayer.

SIR,—In your issue of March 26 last you refer to the importation of phenacetine-Bayer into the United States, quoting a decision said to have been given by the Treasury Department in reply to a correspondent, to the effect that American law grants no exclusive rights to owners of patented articles in respect to the importation of such articles.

Kindly permit us to draw your attention to an "Instruction" issued by Assistant-Secretary Howell of the Treasury Department to the collectors of Customs at Port Huron and Detroit, which seems to differ materially from the reply received by your correspondent.

The Department is in receipt of your letter of the 23rd inst., submitting the application of Mr. Ira. M. Clarke, agent for McPike & Fox, of Atchison, Kan., for permission to make an entry of 100 ounces of Bayer's phenacetine imported by him at your port, or to re-export the same to Canada. You report that entry of the importation was refused under the Department Circular No. 116 of August 3, 1897, and circular letter of the 15th inst., for the reason that the trade-marks on the covering are identical with the trade-marks of the Farbenfabriken vorm. Friedr. Bayer & Co., which were recorded in the Department on the 16th inst., under the provisions of section 11 of the Act of July 24, 1897. Your action in refusing entry of the merchandise in question is approved, but no objections are perceived to allow the importers to return it to Canada.

As there are doubtless many wholesale houses interested in the American trade to whom this latest Treasury decision may be of value, we trust you may be able to find space for this communication.

Yours faithfully,

ELBERFELD FARBENFABRIKEN COMPANY (LIMITED).

19 St. Dunstan's Hill, London, E.C., May 5.

A Pretty Compliment.

A provincial subscriber (84/25) writes:—"Your efforts make it dearer to a chemist to be a non-subscriber than a subscriber. More disappointment is caused by the non-delivery of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST on Friday than would be if all my other journals together were late in delivery."

LEGAL QUERIES.

We do not give legal opinions by post. Information regarding most legal matters in connection with pharmacy will be found in THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY, and in "Pharmacy and Poison Laws of the United Kingdom," and Alpe's "Handy-book of Medicine-stamp Duty."

165/66. *Country Chemist.*—It is quite possible to render a lot of medicines liable to medicine stamp-duty by a circular or other advertisement in which they are generally described as specialties. "Alpe" (page 70) says: "A handbill headed 'The following proprietary articles may be obtained at reasonable prices' has been held to give the character of a proprietary medicine to every medicinal preparation named upon it."

161/42. *B. B.* writes:—"My apprentice has paid a twelve-month's fee to a man who professes to prepare students for the Preliminary exam. by postal-system, and cannot get his lessons sent. What is the simplest legal process by which this man can be made to fulfil his contract?" [The only remedy is to bring an action against the man in the County Court for breach of contract, unless he has been in the habit of getting these fees and doing nothing in return, in which case it is a matter for the police to look into. We do not think the Court would grant an order for the specific performance of such a contract. The student's strict remedy is to employ another teacher and sue the original one for the damages sustained.]

167/6. *Nemo*.—You do not invalidate a will by marrying one of the legatees.

86/26. *Antiseptine*.—We do not think any of the preparations are liable to medicine stamp-duty, but advise you to get an authoritative opinion by sending all the labels, &c. (in duplicate), to Somerset House.

164/45. *Ignorant*.—If it is agreed that a manager is to receive half the net profits of a business, that is exactly what he is to receive. He can have no claim to any proportion of the increased value of the business. As to the outlay for plant, &c., that should be accounted for at stock-taking. If this not done we do not see how the net profit can be arrived at.

165/12. *O. L. J.*—We should not regard the description "teeth expert" as an infringement of the Dentists Act; but we should not think it a good title to choose, as it would not be unreasonable for a magistrate to hold that it implied that the person using it is specially qualified to practise dentistry. We should not advocate defending such a title.

160/56. *Acet. Alb.*—We do not see our way to suggest a safe label for the old P.L. sweet spirit of nitre. Even if you label it "Sweet Spirit of Nitre, P.L.," it is not by any means certain that the magistrates will regard that as sufficiently explanatory. Perhaps if you add "(not spirit of nitrous ether of the British Pharmacopœia)," you would be pretty safe; but you may be sure the public analysts will soon be taking advantage of the synonym. It is intended to wipe out the old gin-tasting article, and the easiest path for the chemist will be to swim with the tide. As for acetic acid, you will always be at liberty to sell "dilute acetic acid," and you may be safe in selling it as white vinegar, but never as white-wine vinegar.

163/16. *D. C.*—"Vaseline" is the registered trade-mark of the Chesebrough Company, and it is illegal to use it for any other kind of petroleum-jelly.

163/4. *Parvus* says in his locality customers expect tr. opii aqnos. for laudanum. Is it legal to sell that for laudanum labelled thus: "Laudanum, Poison. Not Tr. Opii. B.P."? [It is a very doubtful point, but we do not think the description could be called a distinct one. The public ask for laudanum, and know nothing about tr. opii, B.P. To sell anything but tr. opii, B.P., as laudanum is a risky proceeding, though it is always possible that by a label of the character suggested a defence might be successfully established. Much the same might be said of spirit of nitre. We cannot prophesy what view magistrates will take of such cases, but no doubt there will be prosecutions before the points are settled.]

167/56. *Lex*.—It certainly is not illegal in this country for any one to advertise a remedy; and only if it contains a scheduled poison is there any restriction on the sale. It must then be duly labelled, and may only be sold retail by registered chemists.

167/61. *Midlander*.—What you must avoid with your hair-wash is the use of a benzine or other petroleum-product which flashes at below 73° F. as an ingredient.

Queries have been put to us whether the distribution of cash (postal orders and stamps) with a sample headache-powder now and then, as carried out by a Nottingham firm, constitutes a lottery, the condition being that the sample is given only to applicants who produce a coupon from a newspaper. The point is a doubtful one. In "Webster's Dictionary" a lottery is defined as "a distribution of prizes by lot or chance," and this has been judicially confirmed in *Taylor v. Smitten*, 11 Q. B. D. 207. In that case packets of tea were sold at the ordinary price, and in each packet was a coupon entitling to a prize. The difference between that case and this is that here the prizes are given away, but the coupons are not. How a Court would decide we cannot prophesy.

THE SOUTH OF ENGLAND PRINTING AND PUBLISHING COMPANY, SOUTHAMPTON.—We have had letters from four chemists in different parts of the country who are threatened

with County Court actions by this firm. The company appear to have obtained orders for almanacs for 1898 from these chemists, and to have advised them to obtain orders for advertisements from manufacturers, with a view of covering the cost. A certain percentage of the revenue thus obtained was to go to the company. In the cases particulars of which have been given us the chemists have not secured any such orders, but have been prepared to take the almanacs at the proper time. In one case, however, they were tendered in March, and in two instances they were not tendered at all, and yet even in these cases the company are demanding payment. We have before us a threatening letter, headed "final notice," issued on behalf of the South of England Printing and Publishing Company by Harvey & Co., "public accountants and auditors," 3 High Street, Southampton. We presume no chemist will pay such a claim, but we shall be glad to hear from any who have had transactions with this firm, satisfactory and otherwise. It may be useful to threatened chemists if we refer to reports of County Court cases which appeared in the *C. & D.* of May 18, 1895, page 683, and July 17, 1897, page 92.

MISCELLANEOUS INQUIRIES.

We reply to our subscribers and their employes only; queries must, herefore, be authenticated by the name and address of the subscriber. When more than one query is sent write each on a separate piece of paper. When a sample accompanies a query full particulars regarding the origin and use of the sample must be given, and the name of the querist should be placed on the sample. Queries are not replied to by post.

166/35. *Labor*.—The brilliancy of gilded picture-frames is obtained by burnishing with an agate or dog's tooth. The surface of the wood is thinly and evenly gone over with gold-size, and when this is nearly dry, gold-leaf is applied; but you must bear in mind that successful gilding is an art which requires much practice.

165/7. *E. & H.*—Green Ink for I.R. Stamps:—

Malachite green	...	...	...	½ oz.
Glycerine	...	...	...	2 "
Water	...	...	...	1 "

Mix.

163/24. *Dark*.—White Heel-ball, as your specimen, is a mixture of paraffin, of high melting-point, with a quarter-part of beeswax.

161/47. *Hispano*.—The Calf-meal is essentially as follows:—

Finely-ground linseed	...	...	4 parts
Oatmeal (fine)	...	...	1 "
Barley-meal	...	...	4 "
Wheat-flour	...	...	4 "

Mix.

81/7. *J. B.*—Putty is Softened by applying a mixture of pearlash (1 lb.), quicklime (3 lbs.), and water enough to make a thick cream. This is applied to the putty and allowed to remain for twelve hours, when it will be found to have sufficiently softened the putty so that it can be removed from the frame without breaking the glass.

158/52. *Paris*.—Corn-salve.—Your sample gives the following composition on analysis:—

Ac. salicyl.	...	...	5ij.
Ceræ flavæ	...	...	3j.
Ol. olive	...	...	3j.
Resinæ	...	...	3j.
Adipis...	...	...	3j.

M.S.A.

164/70. *C. F.*—Preservative-powder for butchers' use.—This is a mixture of boric acid (1) and borax (2). When mixed together the powder becomes damp; subsequent drying and rubbing down gives it the granular appearance of your sample.

160/52. *A. L.*—Solution for Cleaning Stone.—This is a strong solution of caustic soda.

165/9. *Nemo*.—(1) "Practical Photography for Amateurs," 1s. (Barclay & Sons), or "Imperial Text-book of Photography," by E. J. Wall, 1s. (2) Glycerophosphates.—You will find the particulars you require about these in the 1897 DIARY, page 274, or in "Pharmaceutical Formulas," page 501.

158/61. *Essex*.—Fluid Sheep-brand.—See *C. & D.*, April 30, page 738.

158/46. *Juvenis*.—You can imitate the colour of syr. mori with a mixture of tincture of cudbear and caramel. Syr. mori is not usually very dark in colour.

153/15. *Smilax*.—(1) The "cheapest" house for supplying goods is a thing you can easily judge of for yourself by getting quotations from advertisers in our journal and comparing prices. (2) Mountain Bread for cage-birds:—

Pea-meal	...	...	...	1 lb.
Sweet almonds	...	...	...	4 oz.
Butter	...	...	...	2 oz.
Moist sugar	...	...	...	4 oz.
Breadcrumbs	...	...	...	$\frac{1}{2}$ lb.
Yolks of eggs	...	...	...	1j.

Beat into a paste with water, then bake till brown.

158/31. *Calor*.—Calorific Fluids are applications for the gums intended to deaden the pain of extraction. Methylene and ethylene chlorides are much used now. The following is one of several recipes for calorific fluid in "Pharmaceutical Formulas":—

Ether, pur.	...	...	...	3vj.
Menthol.	...	...	...	3ss.
Ext. cannab. ind.	...	...	...	3iv.
Ol. menth. pip.	...	...	...	3j.

M.

164/19. *Gum*.—(1) The following is a good lotion for Whites in Cow:—

Zinci sulphocarb.	...	...	...	3j.
Ac. tannici	...	...	...	3ss.
Aq. ad	...	...	...	0j.

Five ounces to be used for injection each night.

(2) We know of no treatment for this.

146/51, 157/73, 166/34. *Dens*.—(1) Richardson's "Practical Treatise on Mechanical Dentistry," 21s. (Churchill), has, in chapters 12 and 13, full particulars of the treatment of the mouth before fitting dentures and taking impressions. (2) The cavities of teeth prepared for filling are kept dry by the insertion of cotton wool or bibulous paper. In cases where the flow of saliva is great you will require to use a "submarine" amalgam, the use of which, however, is not desirable, as it darkens the teeth. (3) Harris's "Principles and Practice of Dentistry," 984 pages, 746 ill., is published in England by Churchill (31s. 6d.).

165/60. *J. H. G.*—(1) Liquid Cement for China.—This is made by shaking together, till dissolved, equal parts of shellac and rectified spirit. (2) Darkening Oak. Use a solution of caustic soda.

84/29. *W. F. S.*—Ebony Stain.—Apply a solution of sulphate of iron several times, and when dry brush on several times a hot decoction of logwood and galls.

84/25. *Ph. C.*—(1) Have you not misread the directions for the ointment? M.D.U. (more dicto utendum) is a recognised abbreviation. (2) We note your remarks on the Pharmacy Bill.

163/42. *H. P. J.*—(1) Ceratum Galeni (cold-cream).—See "Pharmaceutical Formulas," page 633, or *C. & D.*, April 16, 1898, page 617.

71/29. *T. S. B.*—Your bottle probably contains a solution of platinum chloride. From what you say about the colour and the sp. gr. we should judge it is rather strong.

161/54. *M. M.*—(1) Saccharin is made into soluble saccharin by neutralising a warm solution of sodium bicarbonate with saccharin, and evaporating to dryness. (2) Saccharin is only soluble in water 1 in 400, acids do not assist solution.

159/51. *Old Man*.—We regret we cannot help you, as it is not the purpose of this column to find out whether grocers are selling scheduled poisons.

156/48. *Nero*.—Steele's "Diseases of Sheep" (Longman's) 12s. would give you additional information to that contained in "Veterinary Counter-practice."

163/70. *Propitlone*.—You would probably get a copy of Holmes's "Botanical Note-book," by advertising in our coloured supplement.

155/68. *Lotio*.—Your description of powder for eye-lotion seems to point to boric acid, but we do not know it by the name "aphordites."

153/29. *T. P. R.*—The method much used now for preserving eggs is to keep them immersed in solution of silicate of soda (water-glass). It answers very well.

154/47. *J. G.*—(1) The developer (*C. & D.*, April 2, 1898, page 546) keeps well; it retails at 1s. for two 10-oz. bottles. If you want more details on the label, you might add:—

In case of under-exposure, increase the quantity of Solution B. If very much under-exposed, mix equal parts of the developer, and dilute to four times its bulk with water, and leave the plate in until enough detail appears, which may take from two to four hours. For over-exposure, reduce the quantity of Solution B.

(2) Methylated spirit will not do for making the plate-backing fluid (*C. & D.*, April 2, 1898, page 546); the rock oil tends to decolorise the dyes. (3) Pound jars of mountant sell at 1s. Your label is all right. (4) Filter out the sulphur from combined toning-bath before adding the chloride of gold.

INFORMATION WANTED.

The Editor will be obliged for replies to the following from any who can furnish the information.

162/61. Name and address of the makers of odol.

168/67. London depôt of Brandt's Malt Extract.

167/29. Who are the makers of killgerm fluid?

167/40. Who are the makers of bituminol, eudoxine, and phenalgin?

166/48. *Silex* would like to know name and address of a person who would fetch away used dispensing-bottles and return them washed.

Coming Events.

We insert notices of association and society meetings in this section free if they are sent to us, on postcards, by the Wednesday of the week before the meetings are to be held.

Wednesday, May 11.

Society of Arts, John Street, Adelphi, W.C., at 8 p.m. "Water-gas and its Applications." By Professor Vivian B. Lewes.

Tuesday, May 10.

Röntgen Society, 11 Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, W., at 8 p.m. "Notes on the Description of a New Induction-coil in *Electrical Review*, February 4, 1898." By Mr. A. Apps. "Some Notes on Contact-breakers." By Dr. J. Macintyre.

Thursday, May 12.

Royal Institution of Great Britain, Albemarle Street, Piccadilly, W., at 3 p.m. "Heat" (Lecture I.). By Lord Rayleigh, F.R.S.

Friday, May 13.

Royal Institution of Great Britain, Albemarle Street, Piccadilly, W., at 9 p.m. "Recent Experiments on Certain of the Chemical Elements in Relation to Heat." By Professor W. A. Tilden, F.R.S.

Sheffield Microscopical Society, at 8 p.m. Lecture by Mr. A. H. Allen.